

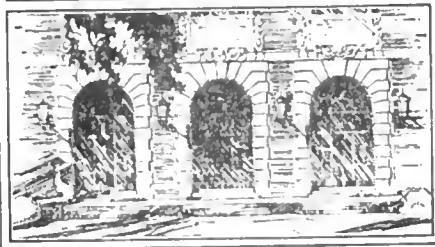
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ILLINOIS HISTORICAL SURVEY

STEPHENSON
COUNTY
[FREEPORT]
no 89

THE HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY
CHICAGO ★ ★ ★ ★ ILLINOIS

INVENTORY OF THE COUNTY ARCHIVES
OF ILLINOIS

Prepared by
The Historical Records Survey
Division of Women's and Professional Projects
Works Progress Administration

No. 89. STEPHENSON COUNTY (FREEPORT)

* * * * *

Chicago, Illinois
The Historical Records Survey
June 1938

The Historical Records Survey

Luther H. Evans, National Director
Howard E. Colgan, State Director

Division of Women's and Professional Projects

Ellen S. Woodward, Assistant Administrator
Mary Gillette Moon, State Director

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Harry L. Hopkins, Administrator
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FOREWORD

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The Inventory of County Archives of Illinois is one of a number of bibliographies of historical materials prepared throughout the United States by workers on The Historical Records Survey of the Works Progress Administration. The publication herewith presented, an inventory of the archives of Stephenson County, is number 89 of the Illinois series.

The Historical Records Survey was undertaken in the winter of 1935-36 for the purpose of providing useful employment to needy unemployed historians, lawyers, teachers, and research and clerical workers. In carrying out this objective, the project was organized to compile inventories of historical materials, particularly the unpublished government documents and records which are basic in the administration of local government, and which provide invaluable data for students of political, economic, and social history. The archival guide herewith presented is intended to meet the requirements of day-to-day administration by the officials of the county, and also the needs of lawyers, business men and other citizens who require facts from the public records for the proper conduct of their affairs. The volume is so designed that it can be used by the historian in his research in unprinted sources in the same way he uses the library card catalog for printed sources.

The inventories produced by The Historical Records Survey attempt to do more than give merely a list of records - they attempt further to sketch in the historical background of the county or other unit of government, and to describe precisely and in detail the organization and functions of the government agencies whose records they list. The county, town, and other local inventories for the entire county will, when completed, constitute an encyclopedia of local government as well as a bibliography of local archives.

The successful conclusion of the work of The Historical Records Survey, even in a single county, would not be possible without the support of public officials, historical and legal specialists, and many other groups in the community. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

The Survey was organized and has been directed by Luther H. Evans, and operates as a nation-wide project in the Division of Women's and Professional Projects, of which Mrs. Ellen S. Woodward, Assistant Administrator, is in charge.

HARRY L. HOPKINS
Administrator

PREFACE

The Historical Records Survey was initiated as a nation-wide undertaking in January 1936, as part of the Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration. In Illinois the Survey became an independent unit in August 1936, but continued to operate as a part of the nation-wide project under the technical supervision of Dr. Luther H. Evans, National Director, and under the administrative supervision of the Division of Women's and Professional Projects.

In compiling this Inventory of the Archives of Stephenson County, the Survey has sought to locate, describe, and classify all extant county records and to make them more easily accessible to county officials, the general public, and research workers. It is believed that this inventory will be useful in the preservation of this valuable material, and as a guide to the archives wherein may be found so much important information in the field of history, sociology, political science, and economics. While some historians have realized this for many years, the general public has never been made aware of the intrinsic worth of this material. In the official documents of Stephenson County is continued the story of the coming into the wilderness of settlers who created a territory and the rudiments of a simple frontier government, bought and sold land, built roads, established schools, and later founded a state.

The Historical Records Survey has proved itself of valuable assistance to local and county governments in Illinois. Records have been re-arranged and made more accessible, material believed to be lost has been located, indexing projects have been fostered, and county officials have been encouraged and induced to provide new equipment for their offices and better storage space for the records.

In addition, the program of the Survey has been planned to dovetail with the long range plans of the State of Illinois for the care of its state and local archives. For example, the first step in the Illinois program, the moving of all state records into a new Archives Building, has been materially aided by the preparation of preliminary inventories by Survey workers for the various state departments. Again, the program of the State for the preservation of county records, including the making of microphotographic copies of all important historical documents, obviously presupposes inventories such as The Historical Records Survey is now making.

Since under Illinois law no records may be destroyed without specific enabling legislation, the tremendous increase in the bulk of records being produced today makes it impossible for either the State or the counties to preserve all records. Hence, there has been considerable destruction of records. The inventories being compiled by The Historical Records Survey now make possible for the first time a scientific study of the whole question of record destruction. If, as seems likely, this results in adequate

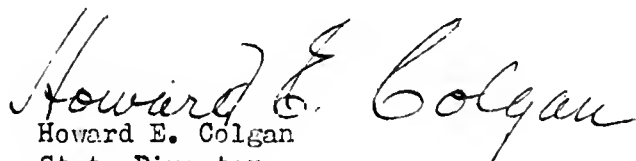
and sensible legislation permitting necessary reduction in the bulk of records, this single use of the inventories may prove the most important contribution of the Survey.

Under the direction of Alston G. Field, who resigned as state director on October 31, 1937, the original field work in Stephenson County, the eighty-ninth on the alphabetically arranged list of the one hundred and two counties in Illinois, was completed on April 27, 1937. The work was performed by W. A. Stassen and Dana A. Dietz and supervised by V. C. Karcher. Supplementary surveys of county offices not previously taken, were made in May, June, and July. The final recheck, including a thorough search for missing and incomplete records, was started October 29, 1937, and completed November 26, 1937 by Harold B. Champlain.

The inventory was prepared for publication by the state editorial staff of The Historical Records Survey at Chicago, under the supervision of Herbert R. Rifkind. Assisting were: Martine O'Connor in charge of editing and re-editing; Kathleen Summit in charge of arranging and indexing; Theodore Nicholson in charge of rechecking; and Edward J. McDonough in charge of format and collation. The legal essays were prepared by Alonzo D. Brewer, under the supervision of Irving E. Barnett. Typing, stencil cutting, and mimeographing were supervised by Dorothy V. Herold. In addition, too much credit cannot be given to the other members of the editorial and typing staffs for their intelligent and diligent cooperation in the compilation of this inventory.

The various units of the Inventory of County Archives of Illinois will be available for distribution to government offices, libraries, schools, and historical societies in Illinois, and libraries and governmental agencies in other states. Requests for information concerning particular units of the Inventory should be addressed to the state director.

All of the officers of Stephenson County cooperated in every possible way with the workers, and grateful acknowledgment of their aid is made. County officials at the time of the Survey were: Charles G. Keck, County Clerk; John E. Miller, Circuit Clerk; Matt W. Graham, County Treasurer; Lee Aurd, Sheriff; Louis F. Reinhold, State's Attorney; Harold D. James, County Judge; Thomas R. Pfisterer, Superintendent of Schools; A. F. Stanley, Surveyor; Oscar G. Hiveley, Superintendent of Highways; Dr. E. A. Diestelmeier, Coroner; Peter E. McDonald, Master in Chancery; and V. J. Banter, County Agricultural Adviser. I wish also to express appreciation for the cooperation rendered by the officers of the Illinois State Library, and by the officials of the Illinois Works Progress Administration and the Federal Writers' Project. For the cover design and the binding we are indebted respectively to the Federal Art Project and the Bookbinding Project of District 3, Chicago, Illinois.


Howard E. Colgan
State Director
The Historical Records Survey

June 30, 1938

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1. HISTORICAL SKETCH

In contrast to its present peaceful and prosperous state, Stephenson County in its early days was the battleground for many determined struggles between conflicting parties and opinions. Some years before its formation in 1837, white men and Indians in the Black Hawk War fought bitterly for the possession of its soil. It was one of fourteen northern Illinois counties claimed by the Territory of Wisconsin before its admission into the Union as a State in 1848. Public meetings in Stephenson, newspaper agitation in favor of Wisconsin's claim, and legislative appeal, all helped to keep the dispute an active issue over many of the years from 1837 to 1848. In 1858, Lincoln and Douglas in their senatorial campaign, engaged in the second and most momentous of their famous debates at Freeport, its county seat. Many stories may be told of other struggles which Stephenson County has witnessed. In the lives and public service of its noted men and women, characters such as Jane Addams and Mrs. Oscar Taylor, social workers, Horatio Chapin Burchard, Director of the Mint, Maj. Gen. Smith D. Atkins, Dr. William W. Krapp, and others, is exemplified the courage and high purpose born of such conflicts.

Stephenson County was created from Jo Daviess and Winnebago Counties by legislative enactment of the Tenth General Assembly in session at Vandalia, March 4, 1837.¹ It was named for Benjamin Stephenson, colonel of Illinois Militia during the War of 1812, and later Adjutant General of Illinois Territory. Colonel Stephenson also represented Illinois Territory as a delegate in Congress from 1814 to 1816, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1818.

The first trail across the territory that became Stephenson was blazed by O. W. Kellog in 1827. Kellog built several cabins at what became known as Kellog's Grove or Tavern, later Timm's Grove, near the village

1. L. 1837, p. 96, sec. 1. Be it enacted by the people of the State of Illinois represented in the General Assembly, that all that tract of country within the following boundaries, to wit: commencing on the northern boundary of the state where the section line between sections three and four, in town twenty-nine north, range five east of the fourth principal meridian, strikes said line, thence east on the northern boundary of the State, to the range line between ranges nine and ten east, thence south on said range line to the northern boundary of Ogle county, thence west on the northern boundary of Ogle county to and passing the northwest corner of the county to the line between sections thirty-three and thirty-four in township twenty-six north, range five east, thence north to the place of beginning, shall form a county to be called Stephenson, as a tribute of respect to the late Col. Benjamin Stephenson.

of Kent in Kent Township, about mid-way between Galena and Dixon. Kellogg's Trail proved to be an important travel route between these two cities and Peoria. Starting at Peoria on the Illinois River, the trail led north to Dixon on the Rock River; from Dixon it swung slightly west of north to Kellogg's Grove, finally branching off northwest and west to Galena. Over this trail tramped men from New England, New York, Ohio and other eastern states on their way to and from the lead mines around Galena. Later, Kellogg's Trail became part of the Army Trail.

It was not until the defeat of the renegade Indian Black Hawk in 1832 that Stephenson County was opened to peaceable settlement. Black Hawk long had been a scourge to white settlements in northern Illinois. His extreme vindictiveness goes all the way back to the burning of the village of his people, Sauk-E-Nuk, by Colonel John Montgomery under George Rogers Clark in 1780, when Black Hawk was a boy of thirteen. Sauk-E-Nuk then was located on the north bank of the Rock River, near the present city of Rock Island, a short distance from the Mississippi River. This area since has been acquired by the State of Illinois and made into the Black Hawk State Park.

The Sac Indian tribe, of which Black Hawk was a chief, were united in a confederacy with the Fox Indians at the time the Sac and Fox chiefs met with William Henry Harrison at St. Louis to sign a treaty on November 3, 1804, ceding to the United States all claims to lands east of the Mississippi. In return, the chiefs received land in Iowa, a certain amount of supplies, and an annuity of \$1,000. But Black Hawk refused to recognize or respect this treaty. Later, with two hundred braves, he joined the British against the Americans in the War of 1812. Dissatisfied because he received no plunder, Black Hawk deserted the British cause in 1814 and returned to his village Sauk-E-Nuk, on the Rock River. It was from here that he launched his depredations and killing raids on white settlements.

For some years Chief Black Hawk succeeded in maintaining the independence of his village. But in 1831 he was called to nearby Fort Armstrong and ordered to take his people and leave. However, all efforts to move him failed, and on May 26, 1831, Governor John Reynolds asked the Illinois State Militia for 700 men to oust the Indians. More than double this number responded, and led by the Governor and Brigadier General Joseph Duncan, then Congressman, they pushed through the wilderness. Outnumbered, the Indians, left by night and swam the river to the Iowa shore. On June 30, 1831, Black Hawk returned to Fort Armstrong and signed an agreement not to return east of the Mississippi without permission of the United States authorities.¹

1. Illinois Blue Book 1935-1936, ed. Edward J. Hughes, p. 428.

Soon after signing this treaty Black Hawk again showed his perfidy. Against the advice of the chiefs of both Sacs and Foxes and in violation of treaties of his own hand, Black Hawk determined to return to Illinois in the spring of 1832. Upon crossing into Illinois he sent word to General Atkinson that his heart was bad and he would not turn back.¹ In defiance of orders, a detachment of volunteers called to fight Black Hawk, took after what they thought were stray Indians on the night of May 14th; with terrific suddenness the main body of Black Hawk's warriors charged upon the disorganized soldiers, routing and defeating them. After this Indian victory over Major Stillman at Old Man's Creek in La Salle County, the Black Hawk War assumed a serious aspect.

Kellog's Grove or Timm's Grove in Stephenson County was the central strategic point in this war. Its possession meant control of the right of way between the leading mine settlements about Galena and Fort Hamilton, and domination of the settlement about Dixon. If Black Hawk could hold the cabins at Kellog's Grove, he could send out his bands on any radius, raid and pillage any white settlement, and get away before the United States troops could concentrate for attack. It was a vital part of the plans of General Atkinson to hold Kellog's Grove and keep Kellog's Trail open.² On June 25th, the Indians were decisively repulsed at Kellog's Grove and the tide against Black Hawk now began to turn.

After July 21st, Black Hawk was not an aggressive fighter. His power broken, he was now anxious to cross the Mississippi into Iowa.³ Brought to bay on the banks of the Mississippi below the mouth of the Bad Axe River, in Wisconsin, on August 2, 1832, Black Hawk was forced to witness the complete annihilation of his band. Although he himself managed to escape, he was later taken captive by Indians friendly to the whites and turned over to Colonel Zachary Taylor. General Winfield Scott, who had been given command of the forces arrived in Galena, over Kellog's Trail, on August 3rd. On September 21, 1832, he consummated another treaty with the Sacs and Foxes re-affirming the Treaty of 1804.

The results of the Black Hawk War were not confined to the expulsion of the Indians alone. The region between the Wisconsin and Illinois Rivers was well explored. Fear of the Indian and the Indian title to the Illinois land disappeared, and northern Illinois received a steady flow of settlers from the free states, thus binding the State closer to the Unionist North.⁴ Noted men served in the Black Hawk War who later were to be on opposing sides in the Civil War. Abraham Lincoln served as a private; with the Regulars were Zachary Taylor, Jefferson Davis, Robert Anderson of Fort Sumter fame, Albert Sidney Johnson, General Winfield Scott, and Joseph E. Johnson. Five Illinois Governors also were engaged, Reynolds, Ford, Duncan, Carlin, and Wood.

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1. Addison L. Fulwider, History of Stephenson County Illinois (Chicago: The S. J. Clark Publishing Company, 1910), I, 36, 37.
 2. Ibid., p. 39.
 3. Fulwider, History of Stephenson Co., I, 49.
 4. Illinois Blue Book 1935-1936, ed. Edward J. Hughes, P. 430.

At the time Stephenson County was created in 1837, agitation was active in Wisconsin Territory, established the year before, for the formation of a State government which would have the boundary line between Illinois and Wisconsin relocated according to the provisions of the Ordinance of July 13, 1787. This ordinance dealt with the division of that territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio River, into not less than three nor more than five states. Boundaries were designated which had become fixed as the east and west boundary lines of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois respectively, and the northern boundary of these States, should Congress decide to form one or two additional States in the northern portion of the territory, was to be an east and west line drawn through the southern bend or extreme of Lake Michigan.¹

Nathaniel Pope, delegate to Congress from the territory of Illinois, after presenting a petition on January 16, 1818, to form a state government, introduced an amendment to the original bill on April 13, 1818, redefining the northern boundary. In place of an east and west line drawn through the southerly bend of Lake Michigan, it was moved to make it an east and west line on the parallel of 42 degrees and 30 minutes.² The original boundary, the southern bend of Lake Michigan, was 41 degrees 37 minutes and 7 9/10 seconds, or a difference of 61 miles 19 1/2 chains; thus by amendment some 8500 square miles were added to Illinois.³

The year 1840 witnessed the greatest activity on the part of citizens of Stephenson County in support of Wisconsin's claim. On January 13, 1840, the territorial legislature of Wisconsin adopted a resolution which provided for a vote for or against the formation of a State government which would include the disputed district. Were the vote to be favorable, the governor was to issue a proclamation calling for choice of delegates to a state convention. The residents in the disputed district were invited to take a similar vote, and to send delegates in the event a convention was called.

As a result of a meeting of the citizens of Stephenson County, February 19, an election was actually held throughout the disputed tract on the 5th of March, at which, of five hundred and seventy votes cast, all but one were in favor of uniting with Wisconsin.⁴ On May 25, 1840, there was presented to the United States Senate a petition signed by sixty-two citizens of Stephenson County, asking that "Wisconsin" be given those "ancient rights secured to them by the ordinance (of 1787) aforesaid, by the "repeal of so much of the act for the admission of Illinois as conflicts with the ordinance referred to."⁵

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1. Albert H. Sanford, "State Sovereignty in Wisconsin," Annual Report of the American Historical Association, 1891, p. 179.
 2. Annals of Congress, p. 1677.
 3. William Radebaugh, "The Boundary Dispute Between Illinois and Wisconsin." The Chicago Historical Society, May 19, 1904, p. 122.
 4. Reuben G. Thwaites, "Boundaries of Wisconsin," Wisconsin Historical Collections (1888), XI, 499.
 5. Senate Docs., No. 225, 26th Cong., 1st Sess., Vol. vi, as quoted in R. G. Thwaites, op. cit., p. 497.

On July 6, 1840, representatives from Stephenson, and from eight other of the fourteen counties in the disputed area, met in a convention at Rockford. The convention formally declared that Wisconsin was entitled to the fourteen northern counties as claimed, and the citizens were recommended to elect delegates to a convention to be held at Madison, on the third Monday in November, "for the purpose of adopting such lawful and constitutional measures as may seem to be necessary and proper for the early adjustment of the southern boundary."¹

Other public meetings in the disputed area of northern Illinois were held in 1842. In Stephenson, Winnebago, and Boone counties, votes were taken to determine whether the inhabitants wished their counties to be included in the proposed State of Wisconsin. Again the vote was practically unanimous for the change. The Governor of Wisconsin Territory at this time, James Duane Doty, battled almost single handedly to have the people petition for statehood, the southern boundary to be as defined in the Ordinance of 1787. The Wisconsin territorial legislature twice refused to pass bills petitioning Congress for admission as a state. Finally, in 1846, when enabling legislation was passed by Congress to admit Wisconsin as a state, the southern boundary was not changed; and after 1848, when Wisconsin became a state, the controversy over the disputed tract subsided.

The first settlers in the area that became Stephenson County came from the West, from the lead mines around Galena, and from southwestern Wisconsin. The lure of fortunes to be made from the mining of lead brought additional adventurers from the East, many of whom passed through Stephenson on their way west. Not always satisfied with their search for riches, many of these miners returned to their homes; but some, attracted by the rich lands and opportunities of Stephenson County, decided to cast their lot there.

The first permanent settlement in Stephenson County was made by William Waddams, in West Point Township, at Waddams Grove, in the summer of 1833. Brewster's Ferry was established in the spring of 1834 by Lyman Brewster near Winslow. In the spring of 1835, James Timms and family settled in the cabins at Kellogg's Grove. In the same year Miller Preston, who had evidently prospected in the county in 1833, brought a drove of cattle through from Gallipolis, Ohio, and settled in what is now Harlem Township, on section 22 near the old Galena stage road. Benjamin Goddard and his family settled between Freeport and Cedarville in December, 1835, and December 19 of that year brought William Baker to the present site of Freeport, where he built a cabin on the Pecatonica

1. Thwaites, Wisconsin Historical Collections, XI, 498.



River near the present location of the Illinois Central railroad station.¹

Until 1836, the settlement at Freeport was called Winnesheik, after the Winnebago Indian chief of that name who at one time also had his village along the banks of the Pecatonica. The story is that Mrs. William Baker gave Freeport its name. Baker had established a tavern there and was also a real estate agent. His hospitality and generosity threw a great burden of work upon Mrs. Baker who finally protested and announced the place should be called a "free port". Freeport was chosen as the county seat after the special commissioners' meeting at the home of William Baker, as directed in section five of the act of creation.² Previous to this selection, the town of Cedarville had vigorously protested its right to be chosen as the seat of justice since it was the geographical center of the county. While Freeport admitted this, its contribution of \$6,500 in cash, the land for the court house square, and a lot to each of the three county commissioners, made its choice as county seat inevitable.

The first election also was held at the home of William Baker, and one hundred and twenty-one votes were cast. Lemuel W. Streator, Issac Forbes, and Julius Smith were elected county commissioners; James W. Fowler, Thomas J. Turner, and Orleans Daggett were elected judges with Benjamin Goddard and John C. Wickham as clerks; Frederick D. Bulkley was elected surveyor, Lorenzo Lee, coroner, Wm. Kirkpatrick, sheriff, and Orestes H. Wright, commissioners' clerk and recorder. At the first meeting of the county commissioners' court on May 8, 1837, voting precincts were laid out, and a law passed regulating charges to be made by innkeepers for meals, lodging, and forage of animals. On December 5, 1837, the commissioners contracted with Thomas J. Turner for the erection of a frame court house and a log jail. The courthouse was completed in 1840 and served until 1870, when it was torn down, to be replaced by the present structure. The first session of the circuit court was held on August 29, 1839 with Judge Daniel Stone of the sixth judicial circuit presiding, Hubbard Graves as sheriff, and John A. Clark as court clerk.

A change in the administration of county business was made in 1849, when the electorate chose the township plan of county government. Heretofore, the county commissioners' court, consisting of three commissioners, had managed county affairs. Under the township plan, the county was divided into townships each of which elected a supervisor; together the

1. Fulwider, History of Stephenson Co., I, 55.

2. L.1837, p. 97; -- for the purpose of fixing the permanent seat of justice of Stephenson County, the following persons are appointed commissioners viz: Vance L. Davidson and Issac Chambers of Jo Daviess County and Minor York of Ogle County, who --- shall meet at the house of William Baker in said county, on the first Monday in May next, or as soon thereafter as may be, and proceed to examine and determine on a place for the permanent seat of justice for said county, and designate the same.

supervisors formed the county board of supervisors. Thus, in Stephenson in December 1849, a committee, with county judge George Purinton presiding, designated the boundaries for fifteen townships. Arrangements were made for the election of supervisors, and the election was held on November 5, 1850. The first supervisors and the townships from which they were elected were: Johnston Reitzell, Lancaster; C. G. Epley, Rock Run; James J. Rogers, Rock Grove; George Cadwell, Oneco; Cornelius Judson, Winslow; Michael Lawyer, Waddams; John Montebus, Buckeye; Daniel Wilson, West Point; Wm. M. Buckley, Harlem; John I. F. Harman, Erin; Conrad von Brocklin, Florence; Gustavas A. Farwell, Ridott; Samuel McAfee, Silver Creek; Hiram Hart, Loran; E. S. Hanchett, Freeport. The initial meeting of the first board of supervisors was held on November 11, 1850. Stephenson County has continued under this form of government from 1850 to the present. Today, however, the number of townships has been increased to eighteen.¹

Important in its influence on public opinion, and pre-casting the events that lead to the civil war, was the second debate between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas, held at Freeport on August 27, 1858. Lincoln proposed a series of questions which were intended to commit Douglas to a definite stand on the issue of slavery. In his answers to Lincoln's questions, particularly to the second question that the people of a territory could exclude slavery if they so wished, Douglas won votes from the northern sympathizers, in the Senatorial campaign, but later lost the votes of the southern delegation to the Democratic National Convention of 1860. While Lincoln realized that he was jeopardizing his chances to win the campaign for United States Senator by his questions to Douglas, his effort at the Freeport debate definitely clarified the slavery question, and set his feet on the road to national leadership. Today, a memorial tablet on a granite boulder marks the spot in Freeport where the debate was held.

Stephenson County lies approximately eight hundred feet above sea level, extending twenty-seven miles east and west and twenty-one miles north and south. Its total area is five hundred and seventy-three square miles or 366,720 acres. It is bounded on the north by the State of Wisconsin, on the east by Winnebago County, on the south by Ogle and Carroll Counties, and on the west by Jo Daviess County. The terrain is rolling prairie, well-watered by many creeks and the Pecatonica River. Outside of Freeport, the main interests are agricultural; fruit culture and stock raising being most important. The Pecatonica River flows through Freeport and serves many diversified industrial manufacturers of such products as windmills and pumps, shoes, medical preparations, paints, machinery, and furniture. Four great railroads serve the county's interests, the Illinois Central, the Chicago Northwestern, the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific, and the Chicago Great Northern. Its population on April 1, 1930, according to the Fifteenth Census, was 40,064.

1. Buckeye, Dakota, Erin, Florence, Freeport, Harlem, Jefferson, Kent, Lancaster, Loran, Oneco, Ridott, Rock Grove, Rock Run, Silver Creek, Waddams, West Point, and Winslow.

ROSTER OF COUNTY OFFICERS*

(Date after name of officer refers
to date of commission, unless otherwise stated)

County Commissioners**

(Subsequent to 1849, county commissioners'
court replaced by county board of supervisors)

L. W. Streator, Isaac S. Forbes,
Julius Smith, May 1, 1837
L. W. Streator, Robert McConnel,
John Moore, August 6, 1838
Thomas Van Valzah, August 5, 1839
Johnathan Cory, August 3, 1840***
Hubbart Graves, August 2, 1841***

James T. Smith, January 8, 1842***
Joseph Nusser, August 7, 1843
Ezekiel Brown, August 5, 1844
Samuel F. Dodds, August 4, 1845
Abner Clingman, August 3, 1846
John Bradford, August 2, 1847
Gustavus A. Farwell, August 7, 1848

* This list was compiled from the following sources:

Election Returns, 1847--. File boxes 2-53, third tier, bay 2, State Archives Building, Springfield, Ill.

Certificate of Qualifications, 1819--. File boxes 1-22, fourth tier, bay 5, State Archives Building, Springfield, Ill.

Secretary of State Executive Department of Official Records, 1839-1918. 5 volumes not labeled, fourth tier, bay 6, State Archives Building, Springfield, Ill. (These are completed volumes)

Secretary of State Executive Department of Official Records, 1869-1936. 4 volumes not labeled, room 208, second floor, secretary of state's office, executive department, State Capitol Building, Springfield, Ill. (These are incomplete volumes, and when completed will be filed in the State Archives Building. It is necessary to refer to both the complete and incomplete volumes as the record of the term for any one official may be entered in one set, while the record of the succeeding term for the same official will be entered in the other set)

** All dates shown after commissioners' names indicate the year elected.

*** Subsequent to 1838, one commissioner was to be elected each year, as a result of the terms of the three commissioners elected in 1838 being staggered for one, two and three years. According to the election returns, these three commissioners received the greatest number of votes for the years shown. However, in the History of Stephenson County, Illinois, published in 1880 by the Western Historical Company, Chicago, B. R. Wilmot, Alfred Cadwell, and George Reitzell were also shown to have been elected in 1840, 1841, and 1842 respectively. Although the election returns do not show this, it is possible that these commissioners were elected to fill vacancies which may have occurred.

County Board of Supervisors

(The several township supervisors, one elected from each township, make up the membership of the county board of supervisors. Because these supervisors as individuals are township officials, and only as a group constitute the county board, they are not commissioned by the State as county officers, and no data concerning them, from which a list could be compiled, are kept by the State. For names of township supervisors comprising the first board of county supervisors, see Historical Sketch, page 10)

County Clerks

(Clerk of the county board of supervisors,
and of the county and probate courts)

William Preston	Hezekiah Poffenberger,
December 3, 1849	December 6, 1886,
James I. Rodgers,	November 26, 1890
December 12, 1853 (Deceased)	Frederick C. Held,
William Preston,	November 27, 1894,
April 27, 1855	November 29, 1898,
Daniel H. Sunderland,	November 22, 1902,
July 2, 1855,	November 21, 1906
November 18, 1857,	Will L. Boeke,
November 16, 1861	January 28, 1910
George Thompson,	Andy H. Volkers,
November 22, 1865,	December 4, 1914,
November 12, 1869	November 29, 1918
Isaac F. Kleckner,	Arthur V. Gage,
November 17, 1873,	November 24, 1922,
December 1, 1877	November 23, 1926,
W. W. Stahl,	November 4, 1930 (Date Elected)
December 1, 1882	Chas. G. Keck,
	November 6, 1934 (Date Elected)

Recorders

(In 1849 the circuit clerk
became ex-officio recorder)

O. H. Wright,	John A. Clark,
June 17, 1837,	September 15, 1845,
August 23, 1839	August 30, 1847
John W. Bulkley,	
August 28, 1843	

Probate Justices

(In 1849 succeeded by county judge as
ex-officio judge of the probate court)

Hiram G. Eads,
June 17, 1838
O. H. Wright,
March 2, 1839,
September 18, 1839
Thomas J. Turner,
September 6, 1842,
September 9, 1843

Seth B. Farwell,
August 27, 1846
John Howe,
August 30, 1847

County Court Judges

George Purinton,
December 3, 1849
John Coates,
December 7, 1853
William M. Buckley,
November 18, 1857
F. Ormsbee,
November 16, 1861
Charles B. Wright,
November 12, 1863,
November 22, 1865
Andrew Hinds,
November 12, 1865
Henry C. Hyde,
November 17, 1873,
December 1, 1877,
December 1, 1882
Edward P. Barton,
December 6, 1886
George Wolf,
November 26, 1890

James H. Stearns,
November 20, 1894
William N. Cronkrite,
November 18, 1898
Anthony J. Clarity,
November 22, 1902,
November 22, 1906,
January 29, 1910
Roscoe J. Carnahan,
November 16, 1914,
November 30, 1918
Oscar R. Zipf,
November 20, 1920
Edward E. Laughlin,
November 18, 1922,
November 16, 1926,
November 4, 1930 (Date Elected)
Harold R. James,
November 6, 1934 (Date Elected)

County Justices

(Sitting as associates of the
county judge)

John Coates,
November 18, 1857,
December 9, 1861
John C. Kean,
December 9, 1861

Harmon B. Amerling,
November 12, 1869
Thos. J. Pronty,
November 12, 1869

Circuit Court Clerks
(Prior to 1848, circuit clerk
appointed by circuit judge).

John A. Clark,
September 4, 1848 (Date Elected)
Joseph B. Smith,
November 23, 1852
Luther W. Guiteau,
November 17, 1856
J. Wilson Shaffer,
November 15, 1860
Edward P. Hodges,
December 5, 1864
William Polk,
November 19, 1868
Aaron W. Hall,
November 29, 1872
Daniel S. Brewster,
November 18, 1876,
December 1, 1880,
November 19, 1884
William I. Brady,
December 3, 1888
Wilbur F. Goddard,
November 29, 1892

H. W. Bolander,
December 1896
William A. Stevens,
December 27, 1900
William E. Boyington,
February 5, 1901,
December 3, 1904
William A. Stevens,
January 3, 1908,
November 23, 1908
Conrad D. Cramer,
January 28, 1909,
December 2, 1912
J. O. Templeton,
November 27, 1916,
November 20, 1920
John E. Miller,
November 21, 1924,
November 27, 1928,
November 8, 1932 (Date Elected)
November 3, 1936 (Date Elected)

Sheriffs

William Kirkpatrick,
June 17, 1837
Herbert Graves,
August 31, 1838
Oliver W. Brewster,
August 27, 1840
Joseph McCool,
August 13, 1842
Phillip Reitzell,
April 17, 1844
Oliver W. Brewster,
August 27, 1844,
August 27, 1846
F. A. Strocky,
August 23, 1848
Peter D. Fisher,
November 20, 1850
Geo. Reitzell,
November 23, 1852
Isaac Spleckler,
November 14, 1854
John Wilson Shaffer,
November 14, 1856

Charles F. Taggart,
December 2, 1858
William A. Youngman,
November 15, 1860
William W. Robey,
November 13, 1862
Jeremiah J. Piersol,
December 5, 1864
William W. Robey,
November 19, 1866
John R. Hayes,
November 17, 1868,
December 2, 1870
Jeremiah J. Piersol,
November 30, 1872,
November 17, 1874
Jesse R. Leigh,
November 14, 1876,
December 2, 1878
William Stewart,
December 1, 1880,
December 1, 1882

Sheriffs (continued)

Benjamin F. Tenims,
December 6, 1886
James McNamara,
November 26, 1890
Ethel B. Clingman,
November 27, 1894
John Mason Fox,
November 26, 1898
James B. McCool,
November 22, 1902
William C. Milner,
November 23, 1906
Robt. J. Stewart,
November 26, 1910

John Ohmsgerds,
November 19, 1914
John G. Hayes,
November 29, 1918
David N. Byers,
November 20, 1922
John G. Hayes,
November 16, 1926
Elmer L. Kailey,
November 4, 1930 (Date Elected)
Lee Aurand,
November 6, 1934 (Date Elected)

Coroners

Lorenzo Lee,
June 17, 1837
William Madden,
August 31, 1838
Loren Snow,
August 17, 1840
Isaac Fairwell,
August 13, 1842
William Patterson,
August 27, 1844
H. W. Foster,
August 27, 1846
Abel Smith,
August 23, 1848
Isaac Bechtol,
November 20, 1850
George W. Hartsough,
November 23, 1852
Abel Smith,
November 14, 1854
Samuel McAffee,
November 17, 1856
Bissell P. Bellknap,
November 18, 1857
John E. Washburne,
December 10, 1858
Levi A. Mease,
November 15, 1860,
November 13, 1862
William W. Robey,
December 5, 1864
F. A. Darling,
December 8, 1866

William Caster Schultz,
November 30, 1868
Jeremiah Dean,
November 30, 1872,
November 17, 1874,
November 14, 1876,
December 2, 1878
Christian Hillebrand,
December 1, 1880
Niles Saxby,
December 1, 1882
Owen E. Stearns,
December 1, 1884,
December 3, 1888
T.A. Dietrich, (Removed from
November 29, 1892 State)
Lester M. Currier,
December 7, 1896
William B. Peck,
November 30, 1900,
December 16, 1904
M. Milton Baumgartner,
November 13, 1908
John G. Woker,
November 20, 1912
Edward A. Diestelmeir,
November 27, 1916,
November 20, 1920,
November 24, 1924,
November 30, 1928,
November 8, 1932 (Date Elected)
November 3, 1936 (Date Elected)



State's Attorneys
(Prior to 1872 state's attorneys
elected by judicial electorate)

James S. Cochran,
November 30, 1872,
November 16, 1876,
November 23, 1880
Oscar E. Hean,
November 19, 1884,
December 3, 1888,
November 29, 1892,
December, 1896
Louis H. Burrell,
November 30, 1900,
December 3, 1904,
November 18, 1908

Albert H. Manus,
November 20, 1912
Charles H. Green,
December 1, 1916,
November 20, 1920
Lawrence A. Jayne,
November 25, 1924
Louis F. Reinhold,
November 22, 1928,
November 8, 1932 (Date Elected)
Harry E. Wheat,
November 3, 1936 (Date Elected)

Treasurers

William S. Gray,
November 18, 1857,
November 16, 1859
William Young,
November 17, 1863
Joseph A. Ward,
November 5, 1867 (Date Elected)
Robt. J. Dickinson,
November 2, 1869
Seneca McEvers,
November 7, 1871 (Date Elected)
Robt. F. Cooper,
March 5, 1872
Oliver P. McCoolle,
November 26, 1873,
November 11, 1875
Charles F. Goodhue,
December 1, 1877
Wallace W. Hutchinson,
October 30, 1878 (Goodhue removed)
Wallace W. Hutchinson,
December 4, 1878
Abraham Gund,
December 1, 1882 (Deceased)
David F. Graham
(Appointed to replace Gund)
David F. Graham,
April 6, 1883

William Stewart,
December 6, 1886
David F. Thompson,
November 26, 1890
Homer Niles,
November 27, 1894
Martin D. Chilton,
December 1, 1898
John Elsessor,
November 24, 1902 (Deceased)
Oscar Elsessor,
January 17, 1906 (Appt. - Vacancy)
Barton G. Cooper,
November 28, 1906
John Bruce,
November 26, 1910
Simon Hoefer,
December 4, 1914
Samuel Markel,
December 13, 1918
Albertice H. Stevenson,
November 20, 1922
John F. Cramer,
November 19, 1926
L. A. Wagner,
November 4, 1930 (Date Elected)
Matt W. Graham,
November 6, 1934 (Date Elected)

Roster of County Officers

(First entry, p. 35)

Superintendents of Schools
(School Commissioner to 1865)

Luther W. Guiteau, August 2, 1847 (Date Elected)	Perry O. Stiver, December 6, 1886,
Joseph B. Smith, November 6, 1849,	November 26, 1890
November 4, 1851 (Dates Elected)	Robt. W. Burton, November 27, 1894,
F. W. S. Brawley, December 7, 1853	November 28, 1898
Henry Freeman, November 18, 1857	Cyrus Grove, November 22, 1902,
H. C. Buchard, November 16, 1859	November 28, 1906,
Alfred A. Cravy, November 17, 1863	November 26, 1910,
Isaac F. Kleckner, November 15, 1869	November 25, 1914
Johnson Pelter, November 17, 1873	Geo. W. Scott, January 8, 1920
No elections for this office as per election returns for the period, 1877-1882	Frank P. Donner, July 30, 1923,
Adam A. Krape, December 1, 1882	September 8, 1927, November 4, 1930 (Date Elected)
	Thos. R. Pfisterer, November 6, 1934 (Date Elected)

Surveyors
(Beginning September 1936, surveyor
appointed by county board of supervisors)

F. D. Buckley, August 17, 1837, August 23, 1839	Christopher F. Dunham, November 23, 1865, May 2, 1868,
Aaron Chamberlain, August 28, 1843	November 15, 1869
Marcus Montelicus, August 30, 1847	Samuel J. Dodds, November 18, 1871
Marcus Carter, December 28, 1849	F. E. Josel, November 14, 1876
Fredrick D. Bulkley, November 11, 1851	Hiram Shons, November 1, 1879, December 1, 1882
Benj. Dornblazer, December 15, 1853, February 23, 1856, November 19, 1857	Wm. H. Butterfield, December 3, 1888
Christopher F. Dunham, November 16, 1859	Arthur P. Layron, November 29, 1892 (Removed from State)
William O. Saxton, November 15, 1860	Francis E. Josel, December 18, 1895
William Peters, November 16, 1861, November 17, 1863	W. H. Shons, December 7, 1896, December 14, 1900

Surveyors (continued)

Wm. H. Butterfield,
November 8, 1904,
November 3, 1908 (Dates Elected)
Charles S. Hepner,
November 5, 1912 (Date Elected)

Wm. H. Butterfield,
November 7, 1916,
November 2, 1920,
November 4, 1924,
November 6, 1928 (Dates Elected)
A. F. Stanley,
November 8, 1932 (Date Elected)



2. GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND RECORDS SYSTEM

In Illinois the law has provided the details of county government and has taken into consideration differences that may exist between the smaller and larger counties. Evidences of the operation and actual application, in Stephenson County, of the statutory provisions and regulations, are offered in the listed records of this volume. They may be considered as memoranda of the transformation of the governmental organization of the county from its creation to the date of the inventory. An accurate study of the responsibility and duties of the several officials that make up the county government, may be made from a review of the records that are kept in their offices.

Stephenson County is a body corporate and politic which also serves as an administrative unit of the state. Within this county are townships and districts that comprise administrative units of the county government. The powers of the county as a body corporate and politic are exercised by the county board of supervisors which is made up of township supervisors elected from each township. This board has general administrative jurisdiction of county and town affairs, including authority to raise revenue within statutory limits, control of public and semipublic funds, management of corporate property, and power to appropriate money for roads and bridges. The county clerk is its ministerial and secretarial officer.¹

The financial powers of the county are delegated to the county treasurer, who receives, has custody of, and disburses all funds by orders of the county board of supervisors or with statutory authorization. In Stephenson County, he is also ex-officio supervisor of assessments, and county and town collector, bringing about a centralization of the revenue procedure. Assessments are reviewed and equalized by the board of review which consists of the chairman of the county board of supervisors and two appointees of the county judge.² The county clerk, as one phase of his duties, binds together the entire revenue procedure, originating certain records and collecting and reporting on relevant information from and to each officer or body concerned.³

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1. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 3; R.S.1845, p. 129-36; Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 17,19, Art. VII, sec. 6; L.1849, p. 63-65; L.1851, p. 35-39,46,47,50-63; L.1859, p. 129; L.1861, p. 236-38; L.1869, p. 104; Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 18; R.S.1874, p. 260,273,321-25; L.1909, p. 160; L.1911, p. 242,243; L.1925, p. 323.
 2. L.1898, p. 54.
 3. R.S.1845, p. 136,138,139; L.1851, p. 37-45; L.1853, p. 14,66,77,111; L.1861, p. 239,240; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; L.1871-72, p. 664; L.1872, p. 11,14,15,19,23,41,47,55-58; L.1873, p. 51; R.S.1874, p. 323,324; L.1879, p. 36-45,50; L.1905, p. 360; L.1911, p. 485; L.1913, p. 516; L.1915, p. 568; L.1917, p. 654; L.1919, p. 765; L.1923, p. 495; L.1927, p. 744; L.1931, p. 747; L.1932, p. 84; L.1933, p. 898.

Justice in Stephenson County is administered throughout the county by the following officers: two justices of the peace in each district, coextensive with townships; the county judge who also functions as ex-officio judge of the probate court; three circuit judges elected in the fifteenth judicial district composed of five counties of which Stephenson is one. Appeals may be taken from the county or probate court to the circuit court.

The clerical functions of the county, probate and circuit courts are discharged by the clerk of the county, probate and circuit court respectively. The county clerk is ex-officio clerk of the county and probate courts. The clerk of the circuit court is elected by the county electorate. In effecting the duties of his office, the clerk in each instance receives and files documents and papers, attends court in person or by deputy and keeps complete records of proceedings, maintains proper indexes to the several court papers, issues process of the court, approves bonds as provided by law, administers oaths in proceedings, draws jurors and certifies names to the sheriff, collects fees as provided by law, and performs the other ministerial duties of the court. The adult and juvenile probation officers assist the county and circuit courts in the administration of justice. The public administrator and the public county guardian, appointed by the Governor, perform their duties under the direction of the probate court. The state's attorney elected by the county electorate, serves as an agent for law enforcement and administration of justice in the county. The sheriff is the ministerial officer of all courts of record, and is the principal agent for the enforcement of law. The coroner shares many powers, as conservator of the peace, with the sheriff; however, his major duty of holding inquests pertains to the administration of justice.¹

In the administration of education, the county superintendent of schools occupies an important central position. In the townships are boards of trustees of school districts, aided by the town treasurer and town clerk; they have financial and executive powers, and are responsible to the superintendent. The superintendent also exercises wide supervisory powers in all matters relating to schools and educational affairs. Above him are the following authorities: the county board exercising general financial control; the superintendent of public instruction, representing state academic supervision; the state department of public health, the state fire marshal, and the state architect, advising in such matters related to schools as fall within their

1. Constitution of 1818, Art. IV, sec. 4; L.1825, p. 70; R.S.1845, p. 75,76, 143-58,323-26,414-27,515-18,548; Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 7,16, 17,29; L.1849, p. 51,62-67; L.1854, p. 16,17; L.1859, p. 95-97; L.1861, p. 119; L.1865, p. 79,80; Constitution of 1870, Art. V, sec. 25, Art. VI, sec. 12,13,18,20; Art. X, sec. 8; L.1871-72, p. 77,189,190,325; L.1872, p. 19,32-34,46,55-58; R.S.1874, p. 172-75,260-64,273,281-87, 321,329,339-41,989-92; L.1877, p. 77-84; L.1881, p. 3; L.1889, p. 165; L.1895, p. 206,210,211,217; L.1907, p. 213; L.1909, p. 311,335; L.1919, p. 403; L.1931, p. 388; L.1933, p. 435-48,451,459.

province. The superintendent reports on his supervision in the county to all these officers and bodies, thereby unifying the administration of education.¹

Public health services are similarly administered on all levels of government, with the county clerk performing an important role. The county clerk maintains a complete record of vital statistics. These data are collected under the supervision of the state department of public health by the town clerks, who, in Stephenson County, act as local registrars. These local registrars deposit monthly the copies of certificates of births, stillbirths and deaths with the county clerk for recordation.² Persons desiring to marry are required to file physicians' certificates with the county clerk showing each party free from venereal disease.³ After the performance of the marriage ceremony, persons who celebrate the same are required to file a certificate of marriage with the county clerk's office. The clerk in turn makes registry and files the certificate in his office.⁴ The state department of public health supervises lodging houses. The supervision is effected in Stephenson County through the reports collected by the county clerk.⁵ The clerk is charged with keeping duplicate records and also with reporting to the state department, thereby again acting as the agent of state control in his county. A county nurse is appointed for such public health duties as are delegated by the county board of supervisors. Also, the county board has power to provide for a county hospital and a county tuberculosis sanitarium.

Public assistance is scheduled to be administered in Stephenson through the services of the county department of public welfare, the county home, the blind examiner, the county court and its appointed probation officer for mothers' pension, the county clerk and the county board of supervisors.

When the present inventory was made in Stephenson County, the county department of public welfare had not yet been established. The department, when formed, is to be made up of the county superintendent of public welfare and a staff selected by him in accordance with and subject to the approval of the state department of public welfare. The county board of supervisors is required to submit a list of five prospects for the office of superintendent to the said state department. The state agency, in turn, is to

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1. R.S.1845, p. 497-99; L.1872, p. 702-5; L.1889, p. 262-66; L.1909, p. 342-50; L.1915, p. 628-35; L.1919, p. 387.
 2. L.1917, p. 759.
 3. L.1937, p. 908, 989.
 4. R.S.1845, p. 345; R.S.1874, p. 694; L.1887, p. 226; L.1905, p. 517; L.1909, p. 276.
 5. L.1901, p. 304.

certify to the board an eligible list prepared by competitive examination. The board of supervisors in following out this procedure, will then appoint one of the eligibles as county superintendent of public welfare.¹ The public welfare department is also to serve as the county department for the administration of old age assistance. All of the records of the county department of public welfare will be subject to the inspection and supervision of the state authority.² The county home is an establishment for the maintenance and care of indigents. Its management and finances are provided by the county board of supervisors.³ Blind assistance is administered in the county with appropriations of the county board together with state funds. An examiner of the blind, appointed by the county board of supervisors, examines all applicants referred to him by the county clerk.⁴ The county court has jurisdiction in the administration of the mothers' pension fund. The probation officer, an appointee of the court for this purpose, investigates and visits cases of indigent mothers who are entitled to benefit.⁵

Public and semipublic works are administered by township, county and state authorities. The state department of public works and buildings, through the county superintendent of highways, exercises technical supervision of the construction and maintenance of township, county and state roads, culverts and bridges in Stephenson County. The county superintendent of highways is also subject to the direction of the state chief highway engineer. Such records are kept as are prescribed by the state department and the chief highway engineer. The superintendent exercises powers over the township and county roads and bridges and is also granted supervision over state-aid roads in his county. The county surveyor is also often employed in these public and semipublic works. In addition to public surveys, he makes surveys for private persons, as a step in the creation of land records. His maps and plats do not have legal status unless recorded in the recorder's office. The latter, whose duties are performed by the clerk of the circuit court in an ex-officio capacity, also is charged with the recordation of instruments conveying or establishing non-property rights.⁶

The coordination of county government in Stephenson County is essentially effected by the county clerk. In addition to his many and dissimilar duties, already noted, this officer issues licenses, has custody of official bonds, keeps various registers, and enters into the election procedure.

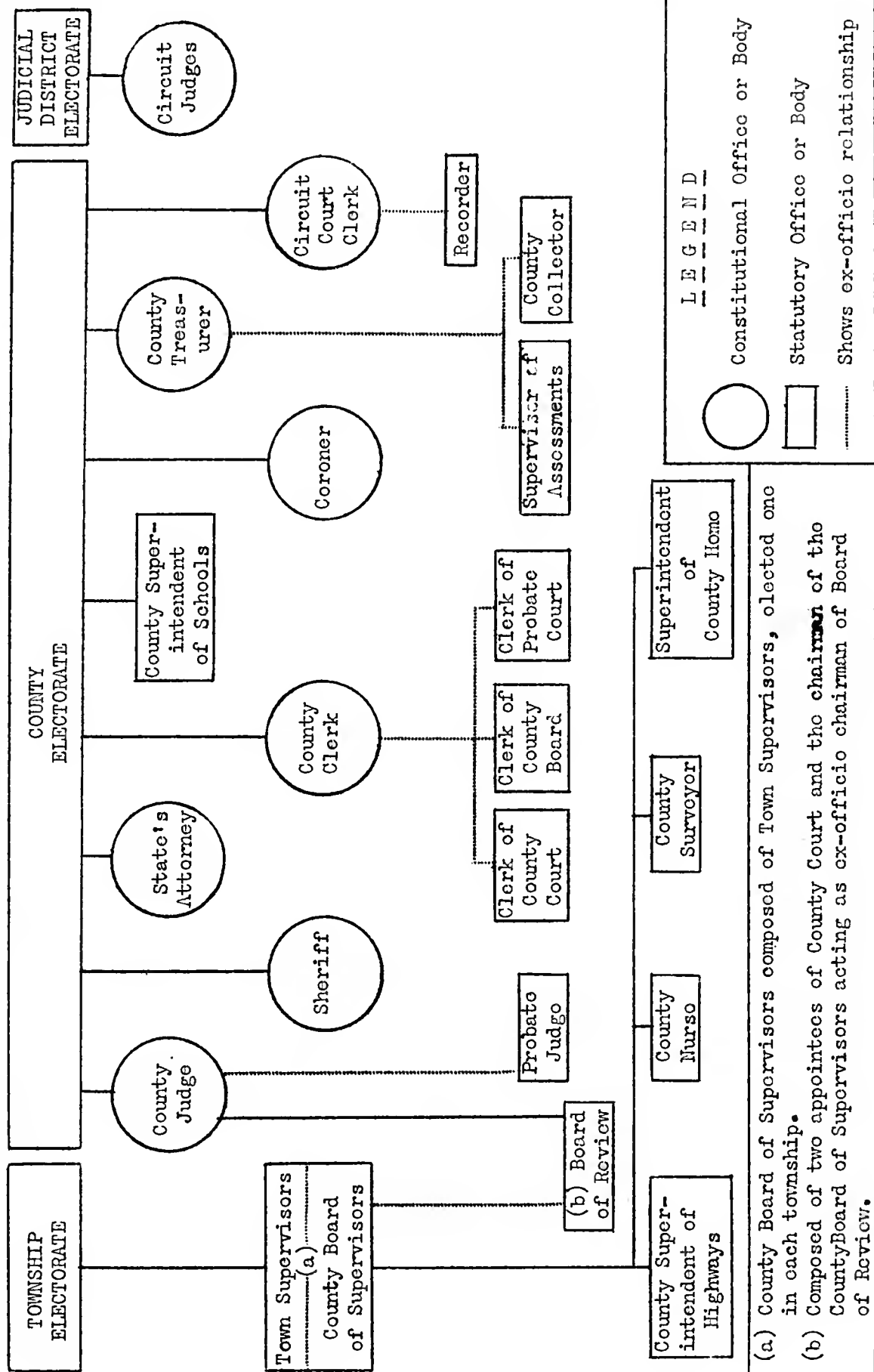
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1. Sp. Sess. Laws 1935-36, p. 70-73; L.1957, p. 451.
 2. L.1935, p. 259; L.1935-36, First Sp. Sess., p. 54; L.1937, p. 265.
 3. L.1839, p. 139; R.S.1874, p. 757; L.1935, p. 1057, 1058.
 4. L.1903, p. 138; L.1915, p. 257; L.1935, p. 264.
 5. L.1913, p. 127; L.1915, p. 243; L.1921, p. 164; L.1935, p. 256.
 6. R.S.1845, p. 305, 432, 606; R.S.1874, p. 833-35, 1050; L.1885, p. 77; L.1901, p. 307; L.1916, p. 575; L.1921, p. 667.

He is a member of the county officers electoral board, together with the county judge and state's attorney. This board hears objections to nominations for the different township, district and county offices. The entire concentration of duties, statutory jurisdiction over which is vested variously in the county board of supervisors, county court, and other bodies, results in considerable centralization of county government in the county clerk's office.¹

All the independent county offices except the surveyor, superintendent of highways, probation officers, county nurse, and superintendent of public welfare, are now filled by election, and most have been since 1848. The surveyor also was elected at one time, but he, as in the case of each of the officers noted above, is now an appointee of the county board of supervisors. Only a few of the present county offices and bodies were recognized by the first state constitution; but, except for the superintendent of highways, created in 1913, the probation office in 1911, and the superintendent of public welfare in 1936, all were established by law at a very early date and are recognized by the Constitutions of 1848 and 1870.

The creation of such state agencies as touch upon county government is a later development, occurring between 1877 and 1917. The quantity and character of county records are affected thereby, but not the system of keeping records. Making for uniformity in records are laws requiring county boards to supply books and forms in many cases. But the only uniformity between counties is accomplished by the use of standard forms in a few cases required by state agencies. Adequate statutory provision is made for rebinding and transcription of old records. The use of loose-leaf books has further improved records; statutory compulsion could extend the improvement.

1. L.1819, p. 25,79,206; L.1845, p. 41,42; L.1861, p. 238; L.1872, p. 380; R.S.1874, p. 325; L.1877, p. 209; L.1885, p. 142; L.1891, p. 110; L.1933, p. 552.



3. HOUSING, CARE, AND ACCESSIBILITY OF THE RECORDS

Stately in its proportions, the courthouse of Stephenson County located in Freeport, represents the best of architectural design employed to express the integrity of a people, and the regard with which they hold their government. Three stories, an English-type basement, and an attic give a height of eighty feet. The first and second stories have seven-teen-foot ceilings; the third story is part of the mansard roof; while still greater effect of height is achieved by the addition of a dome. Width of the building is ninety-nine feet, and depth is eighty feet, giving a space content of 691,200 cubic feet. A flight of stone steps, and a pillared porch provide entrance to the courthouse, which was built in the years 1870 to 1873 at a cost of \$130,413.56 for the building and equipment. Because of the interior construction, wood floors and trim, the floors linoleum covered, plastered walls and ceilings, the building is only semi-fireproof. The offices of the county and circuit clerks, and county treasurer, have vaults with tile floors, steel equipment, and steel doors. All of these vaults are crowded to capacity. However, in most of the main and private offices, there is ample room for expansion. In the basement, the county clerk's vault is not crowded, but the vault of the circuit clerk is.

The office and all records of the county and probate clerk, circuit clerk and recorder, county treasurer and collector, sheriff, superintendent of schools, superintendent of highways, and county nurse are located in the courthouse. The county surveyor has office space in the office of the superintendent of highways, but has no records there; his current records are in the circuit clerk's main office, and the old records are in the circuit clerk's vault in the basement. The county coroner has his office in the Union Loan Building, suite 223-25. Here the coroner keeps his current and bound records; the unbound files are stored in the circuit clerk's first floor vault in the courthouse. Records of the county home are kept at the home, in the office of the superintendent on the first floor. This two-story, stone building was built in 1855, and is sixty feet wide, eighty feet long, and thirty feet high.

The county and probate clerk's office located at the southeast corner of the first floor, consists of two rooms, the county clerk's main office, and his private office. In each of these offices is kept five percent of his total records. The filing equipment in the main office is made up of one wooden wall case with glass doors and number of metal file boxes. The private office is equipped with forty-two linear feet of roller-type steel shelving. There is no crowding in either office, and there is abundant space available for expansion. Several desks and chairs and other equipment amply serve the needs of those wishing to consult the records. In an adjoining vault, measuring fourteen feet square, with a twelve-foot ceiling, the clerk keeps an additional fifty-five percent of his records. Over eight hundred linear feet of modern roller-type steel shelving are arranged along all of the four walls of this vault, which is crowded to capacity, with no room left for expansion. Additional space

and equipment are a pressing need. Other conditions of this vault, ventilation, lighting, accommodations for users of the records, are satisfactory. The remaining thirty-five percent of the clerk's records are stored in the county clerk's basement vault. The atmospheric conditions of this vault are poor as are the artificial lighting facilities. Wooden shelving aggregating six hundred linear feet and a few file boxes for unbound material constitute the equipment of this vault. It is not crowded. No tables or chairs are provided for users of the records, empty shelves being used for this purpose. In this basement vault are also sixty percent of the county treasurer's and collector's records.

The circuit clerk and recorder also has a two-room office suite on the first floor, located at the southwest corner. Both rooms are light and large, with no crowding. The filing equipment in both offices consists of roller-type steel shelving and steel filing cabinets; three hundred and thirty-one feet of steel shelving and one hundred and fourteen feet of steel file drawers in the main office, and sixty-seven feet of steel roller shelves and nine feet of steel file drawers in the private office. In the larger room, the circuit clerk's main office, are kept twenty-five percent of his records as circuit clerk and sixty percent of his records as recorder. Also twenty-five percent of the surveyor's records are kept in this office. The second office, the clerk's private office, contains fifteen percent of the circuit court records. A small number of file boxes, holding the circuit clerk's current miscellaneous records, are kept in the circuit court room on the second floor. The accommodations for consultants of the records are ample in both offices. In an adjoining vault, eleven by fifteen feet, are kept twenty-five percent of the circuit clerk's records and ten percent of the recorder's records. Here also are kept fifty percent of the coroner's records. This vault is equipped with six hundred and seventy linear feet of modern steel shelving and several filing cabinets. It is crowded to its utmost capacity and there is no space available for additional equipment. With this exception, the physical conditions of this vault are very good. A filing cabinet, fitted out as a desk, serves to accommodate persons consulting the records in this vault. The remainder of the records of the circuit clerk and recorder, thirty-five and thirty percent respectively, are stored in the clerk's vault in the basement, as also are seventy-five percent of the surveyor's records. This vault is seventeen feet square and is equipped with four small windows. The ventilation and atmospheric conditions of the vault are poor, and an accumulation of dust is noticeable. Five hundred and eighty linear feet of open wooden shelving and a number of file boxes make up the filing equipment of this vault.

The county treasurer and collector also has an office on the first floor. Like the offices above, it consists of a main office and a private office. The treasurer's private office however, contains no records. In the main office are kept ten percent of his total records. Steel filing cabinets are used for the storage of the small amount of bound volumes kept here. There is no evidence of crowding, and accommodations for users of the records are liberal. In an adjoining vault the treasurer and collector keeps an additional thirty percent of his records. This is a small vault, measuring only eight by ten feet, and it is very crowded, in addition to having no provisions for ventilation. Roller-type steel shelving and several file boxes make up the filing equipment of this vault. The

custodian estimates that at least fifty percent additional space and shelving are needed for the proper housing of these records. The remaining sixty percent of the treasurer's and collector's records are stored in the county clerk's basement vault.

✓ The sheriff's office too, is located on the first floor. It measures twenty feet square and has four large windows. All of the sheriff's records are kept in this office, in wooden filing cabinets. There is ample space available for expansion in this office whenever occasion arises. One large desk and six chairs are provided for consultants of the records.

✓ On the second floor is found the office of the superintendent of schools. It consists of a main office and the superintendent's private office. In the former are kept twenty percent, and in the latter, eighty percent of the records. Wooden wall cabinets, with shelving of the same material, constitute the filing equipment of both of these offices. Neither room is crowded and there is space available for the installation of additional equipment. Several tables and chairs in both offices amply serve the needs of persons wishing to consult the records.

✓ The superintendent of highways and the county surveyor have one office in common on the second floor. The office is made up of the superintendent's main office, and his private office. In the office proper are kept seventy percent of the superintendent's records, and in the superintendent's private office is kept the remaining thirty percent. The outer office is equipped with file desks and a drafting table, while the private office has open wooden shelving aggregating fifty feet in length. Both rooms are crowded, owing to the presence of equipment other than that required for the storage of records. At least fifty percent additional space is needed, according to the custodian's estimate. Ample provisions for the convenience of consultants of the records have been made in both offices.

✓ The office of the county nurse is located on the third floor. This is a large room with an area of two hundred and fifty-two square feet, well lighted and ventilated. All of the nurse's records are kept in this office on wooden shelving with a total capacity of fifty-five linear feet. This room is not crowded and there is ample space for expansion. One desk, one table and four chairs are provided for the convenience of consultants of the records.

In general it may be stated that the records of Stephenson County are well housed and cared for with the exception of those records stored in the county clerk's and circuit clerk's vaults in the basement. Additional steel equipment is being purchased for several of the main offices on the upper floors, and in time steel shelves will no doubt be purchased to replace the wooden shelves now used in these two basement vaults. Installation of fire extinguishers would be an extra safeguard, supplementing the city water pipe outlets on each floor. Rebinding on a number of record volumes is necessary for their preservation. The policy followed in the

various county offices is to keep and maintain all records, and there has been no losses because of fire or floods; therefore, gaps in record dates are nominal and cannot be accounted for.

Endeavor is being made to have all records of like nature kept uniformly, and bound volumes or loose-leaf type are chosen as are best adapted for the particular record to be kept. Indexing and filing as carried on in Stephenson County, correspond in the main with the systems generally adopted by the great majority of other counties in Illinois.

4. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS, SYMBOLS, AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

alph.	alphabetical (ly)
arr.	arranged
Art.	Article
assr.	assessor
atty.	attorney
aud.	auditor
bd.	board
bdl.	bundle (s)
bldg.	building
bsmt.	basement
ch.	chapter (s)
chron.	chronological (ly)
cir.	circuit
clk.	clerk
co.	county
coll.	collector
cont.	continued
cor.	coroner
ct.	court
dept.	department
f.b.	file box (es)
f.d.	file drawer (s)
fl.	floor
fm.	form
ft.	feet
hdgs.	headings
hdw.	handwritten
hwys.	highways
ibid:	ibidem - the same (references)
i.e.	id est - that is
Ill.S.A.	Illinois Statutes Annotated
in.	inch (es)
L.	Laws
mi.	mile (s)
no. (s)	number (s)
off.	office
p.	page (s)
pr.	printed
pro.	probate
rec.	recorder
R.L.	Revised Laws
rm.	room
R.S.	Revised Statutes
sch.	school (s)
sec.	section (s)
sep.	separate

List of Abbreviations, Symbols,
and Explanatory Notes

(First entry, p. 35)

Sess.	Session
sh.	sheriff
Sp.	Special
strm.	storeroom
supt.	superintendent
surv.	surveyor
treas.	treasurer
twp. (s)	township (s)
U.S.R.S.	United States Revised Statutes
U.S.S.	United States Statutes
v.	volume (s)
vet.	veterinarian
vlt.	vault
--	current

1. Despite inaccuracies in spelling and punctuation, titles of records are shown in the inventory proper exactly as on volumes and file boxes. The current or most recent title is used as the title of the entry.

2. Explanatory additions to inadequate titles and corrections of erroneous titles are enclosed in parentheses and have initial capitals.

3. In the absence of titles, supplied titles are capitalized and enclosed in parentheses.

4. In the title set-up, letters or numbers in parentheses indicate the exact labeling on volumes or file boxes. If the volumes or file boxes are unlabeled, no labeling is indicated.

5. Title line cross references are used to complete series for records kept separately for a period of time, and in other records for different periods of time. They are also used in all artificial entries - records which must be shown separately under their own proper office or section heading even though they are kept in files or records appearing elsewhere in the inventory. In both instances, the description of the master entry shows the title and entry number of the record from which the cross reference is made. Dates shown in the description of the master entry are only for the part or parts of the record contained therein, and are shown only when they vary from those of the master entry.

6. Separate third paragraph cross references from entry to entry, and "see also" references under subject headings, are used to show prior, subsequent, or related records which are not part of the same series.

7. Unless the index is self-contained, an entry for the index immediately follows its record entry. Cross references are given for exceptions to this rule.

8. Records may be assumed to be in good condition unless otherwise indicated.

9. On maps and plat records, the names of author, engraver, and publisher, and information on scale have been omitted only when these data were not ascertainable.

10. Unless otherwise specified, all records are located in the county courthouse.

I. COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Public affairs and government in Stephenson County are administered by the county board of supervisors. The board is composed of the township supervisors, one elected from each township, with additional members elected on the basis of proportional representation. In each city and township, the management of town affairs is vested in the township supervisor who is also ex-officio overseer of the poor. Following his election, which is for a four-year term, each supervisor and assistant takes and subscribes to an oath before a justice of the peace of his town and enters a bond, payable to the people of the town, which is filed with the town clerk. At the first meeting of the county board, each of the said township officials making up its membership presents his election certificate which is examined by the board and filed in the county clerk's office. The board meets for the transaction of county business on the second Tuesday of September and the second Monday of June in each year and holds special meetings upon the request of one-third of its membership. Other meetings are prescribed by law for the handling of specified affairs. The board organizes each year by electing one of its number as chairman at the first regular meeting. Meetings are held with open doors and any one may attend.

Several changes have occurred in the development of this administrative branch of government in Stephenson County. Its first county board consisted of three elected county commissioners who formed the membership of the administrative county commissioners' court from 1837 to 1849.¹ The judicial jurisdiction of the court was restricted to cases concerning the county or county business. Starting in 1838, at the first election in a county the three commissioners elected were to draw lots for one, two, or three years to determine the length of service of each. Thereafter, one commissioner was to be elected each year for a three-year term to fill the place of the outgoing commissioner.²

The mobility of population with attachments to different types of local government was an influencing factor in the development of local government in Illinois. The emigrants from the South, where the large farms and plantations favored the division of the county into several administrative districts, fostered this type of government in their new home. People from the northern industrial and marketing states, on the other hand, found their needs best met by the township system. During the first decade of the state's existence, following its organization in 1818, the disintegration of the early civil towns and the forma-

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1. Constitution of 1818, Schedule, sec. 4; L.1819, p. 175. Under the laws of 1819, the commissioners served until August 1820; L.1819, p. 100. Then in 1821 the term was made for a biennial period; L.1821, p. 66,80; R.L.1829, p. 67; R.L.1833, p. 255.
 2. L.1836-37, p. 103-4; R.S.1845, p. 130-31.

tion of districts, and subdistricts for election, for building of roads and for other purposes, showed the influence of migration from the South.

The arrival of township adherents into Illinois from the East, and Middle Atlantic States, resulted from the town lot speculation which began early in Chicago and spread over the state. Not only were town plats regularly sold in Chicago, but also were sold in New York and Boston markets.

These conflicting influences, together with compromises and adaptation to local needs, brought about the legislation enacted in 1849 for two types of county government in Illinois. An administrative county court was established for each county of the state, or an optional township plan could be adopted by the county electorate.¹ At the election of 1849, the electorate of Stephenson County elected the township plan. Under this plan, as already noted, township supervisors make up the county board. The first session of the board was held on November 11, 1850. Stephenson County has been governed by the board of supervisors from 1850 to the present.

The main features of the township law were the decentralization of road administration and state functions, such as assessment and collection of taxes. However, the broader powers of transacting and administering county business remained vested in the county body itself.

To recapitulate, Stephenson County was first governed by the county commissioners' court from its creation in 1837 to 1849, and from 1850 to the present by the county board of supervisors.

The most important functions of the county board with little change from the earliest date are:

1. The purchase, sale, care, and custody of the real and personal estate owned by the county.
2. The management of county funds and business, except as otherwise specifically provided.
3. Examining and settling accounts against the county, and all accounts concerning the receipts and expenditures of the county.
4. Causing taxes for county purposes to be levied and collected annually.
5. Supervision of election, schools, and the selection of juries; construction and maintenance of roads and bridges; care of the indigent, infirm, and disabled; erection and management of the county workhouse and insane asylum; provision for and maintenance of a county tuberculosis sanitarium and a county hospital; the taking

1. The Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 6, had required the General Assembly to provide for an optional form of township organization of counties. See L.1849, p. 190-229; L.1851, p. 35-78; also Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 6.

of all necessary measures and the institution of proceedings for the enforcement of all laws for the prevention of cruelty to animals; naming, or authorizing vacation of, town plats; and improving or prescribing details for county streets and highways.¹

Other significant powers of the board of supervisors include the regulation of county zoning, provision for regional planning, and authority to provide for a county library system, a county normal school, and historical research.

The zoning jurisdiction allows for the restriction and regulation of the location and use of building, structures and land for trade, industry, residence and other uses; the establishment of building or setback lines outside the limits of cities, villages and incorporated towns; and the division of the county outside of these same limits into districts and areas, according to the use of land and buildings. The duty of the board when it desires to exercise this jurisdiction is to appoint a zoning commission which prepares a county zoning plan. If the county board adopts the recommended plan, it is then to provide for an enforcement officer and the appointment of a board of appeals.²

Similar to the provision for county zoning is the provision for regional planning. In the latter instance, the board may make a plan for guiding the development of the region, and of public improvements and utilities. For this purpose, the board may at any time appoint an advisory regional planning commission. In the promotion of a regional plan, two or more counties may cooperate in such a plan.³

If the electorate of the county vote for a county library system, the county board of supervisors is charged with the establishment, equipment, and maintenance of such a system. In this connection, the board may provide for county libraries or may contract with existing libraries. The management of the county library system, except in counties contracting with existing libraries, is under the control of a county library board consisting of five members appointed by the county board of supervisors.⁴

The board of supervisors may establish a county normal school for the purpose of preparing teachers for the public schools. If a county normal school is established, its management is to be under a county board of education consisting of not less than five nor more than eight members, of which board the chairman of the county board of supervisors and the county superintendent of schools are to be members.⁵

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1. L.1819, p. 175-77; R.S.1845, ch. XXVII, sec. 15,17,20,25,29,34-38; R.S.1874, ch. XL, sec. 25,57, p. 302; L.1911, p. 245; L.1923, p. 304; L.1933, p. 427,428.
 2. L.1933, p. 421; L.1935, p. 692,693.
 3. L.1929, p. 308.
 4. L.1919, p. 736,738.
 5. L.1909, p. 370,371.

Clerk of the County
Board of Supervisors

(First entry, p. 35)

The county board of supervisors may encourage or promote historical research within their jurisdiction by making appropriations for the publication of the proceedings, and such other papers or documents of historic interest, by any historical or other society engaged in historical research. The county board of supervisors undertaking such publication has the power to cause the same to be published in book or pamphlet form and to provide for the sale at prices as will reimburse the cost of publication.¹

The records of the county board of supervisors are kept by the clerk of said board.

II. CLERK OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The records listed in this section of the present volume, are kept by the clerk of the county board of supervisors. Those antedating 1849, were originally kept by the clerk of the county commissioners' court. From 1850 to the present, the clerk of the county board of supervisors has maintained the records of the administrative branch of county government. During the period of 1837-1849, the clerk of the county commissioners' court performed the ministerial or clerical duties of the administrative body and was also clerk of the county. The clerical duties after 1850 were performed, until 1871, by the clerk of the county court as ex-officio clerk of the county board of supervisors. Lastly, from 1871 to the present, the county clerk has served as ex-officio clerk of the county board of supervisors. Therefore, the county clerk was the clerk of the county administrative body from the organization of the county to the present, except for the period 1850-1871. Although frequent reference was made to the "county clerk" in legislation during the period before 1870, the variations noted above are in his official title for the periods under consideration.

The major record kept by the clerk for the board is the minutes of its proceedings. This heterogeneous record includes: orders to issue warrants on the county treasury; the board's consideration of, and action on reports of committees of its members on roads and bridges, indigent and infirm assistance, schools, taxation, etc.; and its orders in regard to juries, licenses, and other matters within its jurisdiction.²

1. L.1907, p. 374.

2. L.1819, p. 5,6,23,77,127,334-38,352; L.1823, p. 145,149; L.1825, p. 130,131; R.L.1829, p. 126,132-37,151-53; L.1831, p. 89,90; L.1835, p. 131,132,136,200; L.1839, p. 71,72; R.S.1845, p. 51-55,287,342,403,437; L.1849, p. 66; L.1861, p. 234-37; R.S.1874, p. 323.

Clerk of the County Board of
Supervisors - Proceedings of
Board

(1-3)

The clerk also keeps separately a register of orders issued on the county treasury and lists of jury venire; he files and preserves all bills of accounts acted on by the board, and takes custody of reports required to be made to the board by the county treasurer, various school bodies, and a number of county officers. The book for county orders contains entries of the number, date and account of each order upon the county treasurer, and the name of the person in whose name drawn, and the date of cancellation.¹

Proceedings of Board

1. (COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' MINUTES), 1840--.
In (County Clerk's Miscellaneous File), entry 67. Prior files missing.

Original minutes of meetings of county commissioners' court and county board of supervisors, showing roll call, proceedings, and dates.

2. SUPERVISORS' RECORD, 1837--. 16 v. (1 not lettered, A-0).
Title varies: County Court Record #1.

Record of proceedings of county commissioners' court and board of supervisors, showing grant of land for seat of justice, contracts for courthouse and jail, establishment of election precincts, surveys of roads, establishment of ferries, rates of licenses for taverns, ferries, and stores, articles of incorporation of city of Freeport, roll call, audit of annual reports, bills and claims allowed, authorization of warrants and orders, and all other business transacted by board. Also contains Day Book, 1850-71, 1878--, entry 13; Record (Finance Committee), 1850-71, 1882--, entry 14; and Complaint Docket Board of Review, 1900--, entry 192. Arr. chron. 1837-87, no index; for index, 1888--, see entry 3. 1837-1917, hdw; 1918--, typed. 1837-50, writing faded, paper poor. 555 p. - 572 p. 13 x 8 x 2 - 18 x 12 x 2½. 1 v. not lettered, 1837-50, co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.; v. A-0, 1851--, co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

3. INDEX TO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' RECORD, 1888--. 1 v.

Index to board of supervisors' records and documents, showing reference to transactions of board, names of parties concerned, date of recording, and volume or file box designation. Arr. alph. by subject matter. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 480 p. 18 x 12½ x 2½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

1. L.1819, p. 201,315; L.1825, p. 147; R.L.1827, p. 366; L.1845, p. 169; R.S.1845, p. 136,366; L.1861, p. 237; R.S.1874, p. 325.

Clerk of the County Board
of Supervisors - Disposition
of Accounts

4. MINUTE BOOK, 1915--. 2 v. (1 not numbered, 1). Missing:
1926-28. Title varies: Supervisors' Blotter.

Minutes of meetings of board of supervisors, showing date, names of chairman and clerk of board, roll call, and record of all proceedings. Arr. chron. No index. Typed. 250 p. - 284 p. 16 x 8 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 16 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. 1 v., 1915-25, co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.; v. 1, 1929--, co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

Disposition of Accounts

Register of County Orders (See
also entries 209, 212)

5. REGISTER OF COUNTY ORDERS, 1871--. 32 v. (A-M with duplications, 1871--; 1-10, 1915-30).

Register of county orders, showing date and number of order, name of party to whom order was issued, purpose, amount, and date of cancellation. Also contains Register of County Highway Orders, 1871-1921, 1933--, entry 7, and Township Clerks' Account Book, 1884--, entry 8. Arr. by order no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 294 p. 18 x 17 x 2. V. C, D, 1922-33, co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.; v. E, E, H-M, 1914--, co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.; 12 v. A-G with duplications, v. 1-10, 1871-1930, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

6. REGISTER JURORS' CERTIFICATES, 1857--. 9 v.

Register of jury certificates, showing names of grand and petit jurors, date and number of certificates, days of service, mileage, amount of fees, and signatures of jurors. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 17 x 11 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

7. REGISTER OF COUNTY HIGHWAY ORDERS, 1922-32. 1 v. 1871-1921, 1933-- in Register of County Orders, entry 5.

Register of county orders authorized by county superintendent of highways, showing date, amount of order, and signature of recipient. Arr. by order no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 250 p. 16 x 11 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

8. TOWNSHIP CLERKS' ACCOUNT BOOK, 1879-83. 1 v. 1884-- in Register of County Orders, entry 5.

Itemized account of clothing, food, and shoes for inmates of county poor farm, showing date of order, amount, to whom paid, and amount of board charged for inmates. Arr. alph. by name of merchant. No index. Hdw. Binding and paper poor, writing faded. 223 p. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Cancelled County Orders (See
also entries 210-212)

9. (CANCELLED COUNTY ORDERS), 1840--. In (County Clerk's Miscellaneous File), entry 67.

Cancelled county orders showing date, amount, and to whom issued.

Clerk of the County Board
of Supervisors - Bills and
Claims; County Properties

10. COUNTY ORDERS (Warrants), 1847--. 103 v.
Stubs of county warrants, showing number and date, purpose of payment, and to whom paid. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 250 p. 18 x 12 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. 78 v., 1847-1910, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 25 v., 1911--., co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Pension Funds and Applications (See
also entries 67, 115)

11. RECORD OF PENSIONS FOR THE BLIND, 1903--. 2 v. (A, 1903-15; 1, 1904--).
Accounts of pensions for the blind, showing name, address, date paid, number and amount of order for first, second, third and fourth quarter, and total amount paid; also contains a register of the applications for pensions, showing date of examination, facts contained in certificate, and signature of physician. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 160 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Bills and Claims
(See also entry 2)

12. CLAIM RECORD, 1924--. 1 v.
Record of claims against county, showing date, number, amount of claim, name of claimant, and amount allowed. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

13. DAY BOOK, 1872-77. 1 v. 1850-71, 1878-- in Supervisors' Record, entry 2.
List of claims allowed by auditing committee of board of supervisors, showing date and items of claims, dates allowed and paid, and to whom paid. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. Binding poor. 318 p. $11\frac{1}{2}$ x $8\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

14. RECORD (Finance Committee), 1872-81. 2 v. 1850-71, 1882-- in Supervisors' Record, entry 2.
Record of proceedings of finance committee of county board of supervisors, showing date of meeting, names of members present, proposals and bids, claims approved, and annual report of officers examined. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. Binding poor. 356 p. 13 x $8\frac{1}{2}$ x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Management of County Properties and Roads

Bids and Contracts (See
also entry 2)

15. JAIL COMMITTEE, 1875-77. 1 v. Discontinued.
Record of proceedings of jail committee of county board of supervisors, showing names of members, dates of meetings, names of bidders on contract, specifications and materials to be used, name of contractor receiving award, and date. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 359 p. 13 x $8\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Clerk of the County Board of
Supervisors - Reports to
Board; Jury Lists

(16-21)

Bond Issues

16. HIGHWAY BOND REGISTER, 1917--. 1 v. (1).

Prior records cannot be located.

Register of highway bonds, showing name of township, date and number of bond, amount, rate of interest, date of maturity, purpose of bond, and date cancelled. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of twp. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 120 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

17. REGISTER OF SCHOOL BONDS, 1928--. 2 v. (1, 2).

Register of school bonds, showing name and number of school districts, number of bonds, by whom issued, purpose, date, and amount of bond, rate of interest, date of maturity, and date registered. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of school district. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 234 p. 16 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Correspondence

18. LETTERS (Miscellaneous), 1871-1904. 5 v. Discontinued.

Bound copies of letters written by county clerk to other county officials on matters of county business; also copies of letters of county superintendent of schools to school trustees. Arr. chron. No index. 1871-99, hdw.; 1900-1904, typed. Binding and paper poor, writing faded. 500 p. 12 x 10 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Reports to Board

(See also entries 228, 254)

19. (REPORTS TO COMMISSIONERS' COURT AND TO COUNTY BOARD), 1840--.
In (County Clerk's Miscellaneous File), entry 67. Prior files missing.

Original reports of various county officials to the county board, showing names of officials or committees, dates, and facts submitted for approval.

20. CEMETERY ASSOCIATION REPORT, 1924--. 1 v. No prior records.

Report of trustees of cemetery associations, showing date, receipts and expenditures, and signatures of trustees. Arr. alph. by name of association. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 585 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Jury Lists

(See also entries 6, 151, 170, 171, 209)

21. JURY LIST, 1872--. 3 v. (1 not numbered, 1, 2).

Title varies; Register of Jurors.

List of jurors selected, showing names and addresses, date selected, drawn, and served, number of days served, mileage, total amount of fees, signature of juror, and certificate number. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. - 470 p. 17 x 15 x 1 - 17 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. 1 v. not numbered, v. 1, 1872-1913, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 2, 1914--., co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

III. COUNTY CLERK

The county clerk is commissioned by the Governor, and is the keeper of the county seal, which he uses in cases where an official seal is required. Before entering office the clerk takes and subscribes to an oath which is entered at large upon the records of his office. His bond is given in a penal sum and security as determined by the county board of supervisors. The memoranda of this bond are recorded upon the records of his office, and the bond is filed with the clerk of the circuit court.¹

This officer, the county clerk, has the most varied duties of any other county official. To enable him to perform his many duties, he is allowed to appoint deputies who take and subscribe to an oath, which, in each instance, is entered upon record.² There is an abundance of functions, with resulting records, growing out of these various duties, including important services relating to taxation, elections, vital statistics, licenses, bonds, and lesser duties in the operation of county government. Jurisdiction in these matters is delegated to a number of state, county, district and township authorities, and the clerk's relationship with these groups makes him a de facto chief executive of the county. These relationships effect some coordination of public activities in Stephenson County and result in many records in the county clerk's office. The clerk is custodian of each of the records, books and papers appertaining to and filed or deposited in his office, and the same are open to public inspection without charge. Copies may be had of any of these records, papers or accounts upon payment of a fee.³ The county clerk is also ex-officio clerk of the county board of supervisors, and the county and probate courts. The records that he keeps in each case belong to the respective office. The description which follows for records and changes in record requirements does not purport to be complete, but does attempt to indicate their main features.

The office of county clerk has experienced several variations in its development in Stephenson County. The early legal status of the county clerk was first as clerk of the county commissioners' court from the beginning of the county in 1837 to 1849.⁴ During this early period the clerk performed a dual function by serving as clerk of the county and clerk of the county governing body. An interesting change took

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1. R.S.1845, p. 395; L.1849, p. 63,64; R.S.1874, p. 321; L.1929, p. 312.
 2. Ibid. Also L.1831, p. 49; L.1853, p. 257.
 3. R.S.1845, p. 136,395; L.1849, p. 63,64; L.1861, p. 237; R.S.1874, p. 231.
 4. The office was elective with a term of two years. L.1837, p. 49; R.S.1845, p. 573.

place in his office under the Constitution of 1848 and the legislation of 1849.¹ At this time the clerk became, in addition, the clerk of the newly-created judicial branch of county government. His official title was clerk of the county court and his services included his duties as clerk of the county, clerk of the county administrative body, and as clerk of the newly-formed judicial county court. The new administrative body was the county board of supervisors. The judiciary was the county court administered by the county judge. The clerk in his functions as clerk of the county and clerk of the administrative branch of county government was successor to the clerk of the county commissioners' court. His ex-officio office as clerk of a judicial court first began at this time, namely 1849. The ministerial duties of clerk of the county court extended also to the court's probate jurisdiction. For this county court function, the clerk performed the ministerial duties formerly delegated to the probate justice of the peace of Stephenson County.²

The clerk of the county commissioners' court from 1837 to 1849, and the clerk of the county court from 1849 to 1870, when acting for the county, were frequently referred to in legislation as the "ccunty clerk". However, the Constitution of 1870 first titled this officer, when so acting, as the "county clerk". In consequence of this constitutional provision the clerk has been elected by the county electorate as the "county clerk" from 1871 to date. He has continued to act, from the earlier period to the present, as clerk of the county board of supervisors, and for the county and probate courts.³ With the revision of the laws of 1874, a distinction of titles came into use for each of his ex-officio capacities. When the county clerk performs his duties for each of the aforementioned branches of government, he is expressly declared to be so doing. Thus the simple designation of county clerk is reserved for the officer when he performs that group of duties which belong to his office alone, and which gives rise to the records in this section.⁴

In review, it may be said that the county clerk's office has existed in Stephenson County from the organization of the county in 1837 to the present. His earliest title was "clerk of the county commissioners' court"; in 1849 he was titled "clerk of the county court"; and, finally, under the Constitution of 1870, his title became "county clerk".

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1. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16,18,19; L.1849, p. 63. Like his predecessor, an elective officer, but with a term of four years.
 2. Ibid.
 3. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 18 and Art. X, sec. 8. The clerk's term was set for four years.
 4. R.S.1874, p. 260,273,321. His bond covers also his actions as clerk of the county court and as clerk of the county board of supervisors. The penal sum is fixed by the latter body.

The county clerk of Stephenson County is required to keep an extensive group of taxation records. He has legal custody of books used by the town assessors and the supervisor of assessments and compiles those used by the collector; obtains and prepares abstracts of assessments and collections; keeps the records of proceedings of special tax bodies; makes reports of delinquent taxes returned by the collector; attends all tax sales and prepares a list of all sales and issues duplicate reports thereof; records affidavits of purchases of property for taxes, and makes record of tax sales, forfeitures and redemptions in a book kept by him and known as the "tax judgment, sale, redemption and forfeiture record." In addition, various lists and receipts involved in the taxation procedure from beginning to end are required to be transmitted to him.¹ Also for taxation purposes, the county clerk keeps the county record books of taxable railroad property and taxable capital stock of telegraph companies. Upon delivery of the regular tax books to the county collector the clerk attaches a warrant under his seal of office, and delivers the railroad and telegraph property books to the collector for the collection of the levied taxes. After the collections are made, the books are returned to the clerk.² Among these taxation records of the county clerk are personal property schedules and statements. The schedules bear the endorsement of the person whose property is listed, and are arranged in alphabetical order. The clerk is required to preserve these schedules for two years.³

The state department of public health has charge of the registration of births, stillbirths and deaths, but the county clerk keeps complete records of these vital statistics. Copies of certificates of these data are transmitted to the clerk by the local registrars of the department of public health. In Stephenson County, the clerks of townships perform the duties of local registrars. The clerk registers and files all certificates, and records births, deaths and stillbirths in separate books and indexes each separately.⁴

Persons desiring to marry are required to file with the county clerk a physician's certificate showing each party to be free of venereal disease. After filing the certificates of physical examination, the parties are then entitled to apply for a marriage license which is issued by the county clerk.⁵ Following the ceremony, marriage certificates are returned to the clerk by persons qualified to celebrate the same. The marriages are recorded and indexed by the clerk.⁶

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1. L.1825, p. 174; R.L.1827, p. 330; R.L.1833, p. 527; L.1840, p. 4; L.1843, p. 232; R.S.1845, p. 8; L.1849, p. 121,206; L.1851, p. 56; L.1853, p. 17,50; L.1872, p. 56-58; L.1879, p. 240; L.1881, p. 132; L.1885, p. 77; L.1898, p. 40,41; L.1909, p. 311,333; L.1935, p. 1218.
 2. L.1871-72, p. 1; R.S.1874, p. 854; L.1879, p. 240.
 3. L.1853, p. 17,50; L.1879, p. 240; L.1881, p. 132.
 4. L.1819, p. 26,281; R.S.1845, ch. XVII, sec. 3-5, ch. LXIX, sec. 6; R.S.1874, p. 695; L.1877, p. 200-210; L.1901, p. 301-4; L.1903, p. 315-18; L.1915, p. 660-70; L.1917, p. 2-36,763-66.
 5. L.1937, p. 910.
 6. Ibid 4.

Blind assistance funds are provided jointly by the county and state.¹ Applicants claiming benefits of the fund are required to go before the county clerk and make affidavit as to residence and incapacity.² The county clerk files the application and refers the applicant to the examiner of the blind. He keeps a register of all applications and date of examination of those entitled to benefits of the blind assistance funds. Following the certification of the examiner of the blind, the clerk certifies to the county board of supervisors those entitled to benefit.³

The clerk is involved in nearly every step of the election procedure. He prepares and issues blank ballots and keeps a record of the same, as well as of petitions, marked ballots, tally sheets, and returns of elections which are transmitted to him by the judges of election.⁴ Formerly the county clerk originated the abstracts of returns; those currently found in his office are copies that he is required by law to obtain from the election commissioners or judges of election. Canvasses were also originally made by the clerk alone, but now the clerk, with the justices of the peace, audits votes by election precincts. Returns of the election of school trustees, elected in townships, are made to the county clerk who furnishes the county superintendent of schools the names of the trustees and their respective townships.⁵

The bonds of a number of officials are required to be transmitted to the clerk. He keeps a book in which is entered a minute of all official bonds filed in his office.⁶ The justices' of the peace and constables' oaths, bonds, and securities are approved by the clerk and entered in a separate book in accordance with statutory requirement. This book shows the date on which each justice of the peace and constable was sworn into office, together with the date of commission by the Governor. Resignations in these offices are made to the county clerk who makes entry in the same record book.⁷

In addition to the records thus far mentioned as belonging to the county clerk's office there are the following: record of licenses to peddlers, taverns, ferries, etc., which are issued by the clerk;⁸ record of estrays; registers of professionals, including physicians, midwives, optometrists, dentists, chiropodists, and veterinarians;⁹ list of county

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1. L.1927, p. 202.
 2. L.1903, p. 138; L.1915, p. 256.
 3. L.1915, p. 256.
 4. L.1819, p. 25,206; L.1821, p. 77; L.1823, p. 54,55; R.L.1829, p. 59, 60; L.1845, p. 41,42; L.1871-72, p. 380; L.1885, p. 142; L.1891, p. 107; L.1911, p. 310; L.1928, p. 33; L.1929, p. 421.
 5. L.1889, p. 322; L.1909, p. 342.
 6. R.S.1845, p. 136,395; L.1861, p. 237,238; R.S.1874, p. 325; L.1895, p. 185.
 7. L.1895, p. 185.
 8. L.1819, p. 79; R.L.1827, p. 320; R.L.1833, p. 439; R.L.1837, p. 175.
 9. L.1819, p. 206,207; R.L.1827, p. 190,191; L.1877, p. 209; L.1881, p. 79; L.1899, p. 273,275,280; L.1917, p. 588; L.1923, p. 436; L.1927, p. 600; L.1935, p. 990.

officers; list of town officers which is furnished annually by the town clerk;¹ record of notaries public;² and book of state civil service rules.³

In Stephenson County neither the record of the notaries public nor the book of state civil service rules appear among the records of the county clerk's office. The register of medical practitioners and midwives is necessary before practice is allowed in the county. The veterinarian's license may be recorded either in the county clerk's or recorder's office. Referring to his list of town officers, the county clerk reports annually to the state department of public health the names and post office addresses of the supervisor, town assessor, and town clerk of each of the townships of Stephenson County. These reports show the term expiration dates and any vacancies that may exist or occur.⁴

There are many other statutory provisions for the archives of the county clerk's office. Besides the reports and papers, already narrated, which the clerk is required to issue, file, or preserve, he is also charged with the care and custody of all other books and papers pertaining to his office. To assist in the use of the same, the county clerk is required to keep alphabetical indexes of all records and papers in his office.⁵

Taxation

(See also entries 67, 190-200, 212)

Lists of Taxable Property, Levies

22. DOCKET CITIES AND TOWNS, 1876--. 4 v. (A-D).

Docket of amounts wanted, showing name of township and number of school district, date, land, lots, personal property, and railroad valuations, values as equalized by state board, total valuation, and total tax. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 295 p. 18 x 12 x 2. V. A, B, 1876-1911, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. C, D, 1912--, co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

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1. L.1861, p. 226; R.S.1874, p. 1065.
 2. L.1871-72, p. 574; R.S.1874, p. 721; L.1875, p. 88.
 3. L.1905, p. 113; L.1911, p. 222.
 4. L.1923, p. 480.
 5. R.S.1845, p. 136,395; L.1861, p. 237; R.S.1874, p. 321.



23. ASSESSORS' BOOKS, 1858--. 1,680 v. Prior records cannot be located.

Lists of taxable real estate and personal property of the following eighteen townships: Buckeye, Dakota, Erin, Florence, Freeport, Harlem, Jefferson, Kent, Lancaster, Loran, Oneco, Ridott, Rock Grove, Rock Run, Silver Creek, Waddams, West Point, and Winslow, showing owner's name, description of property, number of acres, date of assessment, full and assessed valuation, amount as revised and corrected by supervisor of assessments, amount fixed by board of review, total amount assessed, tabular statement, and grand summary. All townships have 80 volumes each except Freeport which has 320 volumes. Arr. by sec., twp., and range for real estate; alph. by name of owner for personal property. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 17 x 17 x 1. 1,554 v., 1858-1930, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 126 v., 1931--, co. treas.'s off., 1st fl.

24. TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH, 1919--. 4 v. (D-G).

Lists of telephone and telegraph tax levies, showing value of poles and equipment, total assessed value, tax spread, and total tax. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 121 p. 17 x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

For original schedules, see entry 67.

25. RAILROAD BOOK, 1876--. 31 v. (29 not lettered, 1876-1911; D, E, 1908--).

Lists of taxable railroad property, showing description and location, value fixed by railroad, value fixed by assessor, total cash value of all property, total assessed value of all property, and value fixed by board of review. Arr. alph. by name of railroad. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 150 p. - 200 p. 17 x 14 x 1 - 16 x 13 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. 29 v., 1876-1911, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. D, 1908-25, co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.; v. E, 1926--, treas.'s off., 1st fl.

For original schedules, see entry 67.

26. LAND AND PERSONAL ROAD TAX LIST, 1905-13. 717 v. Discontinued. Copies of road tax lists, showing name of property owner, legal description and location of real property, and amount of tax; also showing value of personal property and tax, total tax, and number of days if paid in labor. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 25 p. 9 x 4 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

For original lists, see entry 212.

27. ABSTRACT OF ASSESSMENT OF TAXES, 1892--. 2 v. (1 not labeled, 1). Abstracts of tax assessments, showing name of township, value of improved and unimproved property, and date. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 150 p. 18 x 18 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

For original abstracts, see entry 67.

28. ASSESSMENT AND STATEMENT OF TAXES, 1888--. 3 v.

Statements of assessments and taxes, showing names of township and town, number of acres of improved and unimproved property, assessed value, years assessed, and total assessed value. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 250 p. 18 x 16 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

For original statements, 1867--, see entry 67.

29. (SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLLS), 1840--. In (County Clerk's Miscellaneous File), entry 67.

Lists of taxable property upon which special assessments have been levied for local improvements, showing name of owner, description of property, and amount and purpose of special assessment.

Collections, Abatement

30. TAX COLLECTIONS, 1880-81. 1 v. Prior and subsequent records cannot be located.

Account books of tax collections, showing name of county collector, date tax received, against whom assessed, tax spread, amount of back tax, legal description of property, and total amount of taxes. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 215 p. 16 x 11½ x 1. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

31. COLLECTORS' BOOKS, 1855--. 1722 v. Prior records cannot be located.

Record of collections on taxable property in Rock Grove, Winslow, Erin, Loran, West Point, Silver Creek, Ridott, Kent, Rock Run, Oneco, Lancaster, Buckeye, Harlem, Waddams, Florence, Jefferson, Freeport, and Dakota Townships, showing descriptive lists of lands, lots, and personal property, name of township, in whose name assessed, number of acres, assessed value, amounts fixed by county board of review and state board of equalization, tax spread, total amount of tax due, amounts collected, including interest on first and second installments, dates, and by whom paid. One volume per year for each township, except for Freeport Township which has four volumes per year. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 82 p. 17 x 16½ x 7. 1596 v., 1855-1931, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 126 v., 1932--, treas.'s off., 1st fl.

32. TRANSCRIPT OF DELINQUENT TAXES, 1839--. 111 v. (109 not numbered, 1, 2). Title varies: Transcript of Abatement.

Transcript of lists of delinquent taxes, errors, abatements, and insolvencies, showing description and location of lands, town lots and blocks upon which taxes remain due and unpaid, names of owners, total amount of tax, and dates of assessment. Also contains Delinquent and Railroad Taxes, 1839-66, 1871--, entry 200. Arr. alph. by name of owner. No index. 1839-59, hdw.; 1860--, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 1839-59, binding and paper very poor. 113 p. 16 x 11½ x 1. 110 v., 1839-1934, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 1 v., 1935--, treas.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Judgment, Sale, Redemption

33. TAX JUDGMENT RECORD (Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record), 1849--. 18 v. (12 not lettered, B-G).

Petitions of county collector to sell lands for delinquent taxes, showing name of owner, legal description of property, tax spread, amount of tax due, interest and costs, total tax and costs, amount of judgment, amount of subsequent taxes paid, date and amount of sale, and by whom redeemed. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 332 p. - 640 p. 16 x 12 x 2 - 18 x 12½ x 3. V. B-G, 1849-92, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 12 v. not lettered, 1893--, co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Plats

34. SCHOOL DISTRICT PLATS, 1860--. 1 v. 1848-59 in (County Clerk's Miscellaneous File), entry 67.

Plats of school districts used for taxation purposes, showing section, range, and school district numbers, and date of changes made. Arr. by district no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. and hand-drawn, 180 p. 10 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Vital Statistics

Births (See also entries
63-65, 201)

35. (BIRTH CERTIFICATES), 1878--. In (County Clerk's Miscellaneous File), entry 67.

Original birth certificates showing certificate number, sex, color, date of birth, names, address, and occupation of parents, and signature of attending physician or accoucheur.

36. INDEX TO BIRTHS, 1919--. 4 v. (H-K). 1878-1918 in General Index, entry 93.

Index to birth certificates, showing names of child and parents, and certificate and file numbers. Arr. alph. by surname of child. Hdw. on pr. fm. 360 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

37. REGISTER OF BIRTHS (Record), 1878-1918. 9 v. (A-I). Discontinued.

Copies of birth certificates, showing place of birth, number of registration and primary registration districts, certificate number, sex, color, date of birth, names, address and occupation of parents, and record of certificate of attending physician or midwife. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of child. Hdw. on pr. fm. 598 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Deaths (See also entries
63-65, 201)

38. (DEATH CERTIFICATES), 1878--. In (County Clerk's Miscellaneous File), entry 67.

Original death and stillbirth certificates showing certificate number, name of deceased, sex, color, marital status, dates of birth and death, age, occupation, places of birth and burial, name and address of undertaker, and signature of physician.

39. INDEX TO DEATHS, 1919--. 3 v. (G-I). 1878-1918 in General Index, entry 93.

Index to deaths, showing name of deceased, number of certificate, and date of death. Arr. alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 340 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

County Clerk - Licenses and
Registers

(40-45)

40. REGISTER OF DEATHS (Record), 1878-1918. 6 v. (A-F).

Discontinued.

Copies of death certificates, showing register number, name of deceased, sex, color, marital status, dates of birth and death, age, occupation, places of death and burial, name and address of undertaker, and physician's certification as to cause of death; also includes copies of stillbirth certificates. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Marriages

41. APPLICATIONS FOR MARRIAGE LICENSE, 1876--. 51 v. (1-51).

Copies of applications for marriage licenses, showing number and date of application, name of applicant, address, age, marital status, consent of parents or guardians, and affidavits of applicants. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of male. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. V. 1-50, 1876-1935, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 51, 1936--., co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

42. (MARRIAGE LICENSES), 1840--. In (County Clerk's Miscellaneous File), entry 67.

Returned marriage licenses showing names, ages, and residences of bride and groom, license number, and dates of license and marriage.

43. REGISTER OF MARRIAGES (and Record), 1837--. 14 v. (A-D, D-M).

Register and record of marriage licenses, showing names of male and female, residence, license number, dates of license and marriage, and certification. In 1909 the register form was changed to a record form consisting of exact copies of marriage licenses. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of applicants. 1837-60, hdw.; 1861-1909, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1910--., hdw. on pr. fm. V. A, B, binding very poor, writing faded. 638 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Licenses and Registers

Register of Officers

44. REGISTER OF OFFICERS, 1861--. 4 v. (2 not numbered, 1861--; 2 not numbered, 1884-1907). Title varies: Index to County Officers.

Register of county officers, showing name of officer, residence, office held, date of election, qualifications, names of sureties, amount and date of bond, and date of expiration of commission. The two volumes bearing the title variant are erroneously labeled; they are not indexes. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 121 p. - 250 p. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 x $\frac{1}{2}$ - 16 x 12 x 2. 2 v., 1861--., co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.; 2 v., 1884-1907, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

45. REGISTER OF NOTARIES, 1935--. 1 v. (B).

Register of notaries, showing names and addresses, and dates of commission and expiration. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of notary. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 175 p. 17 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s private off., 1st fl.

Professional Licenses and
Registers

46. REGISTER OF PHYSICIANS AND ACCOUCHEURS, 1887---. 1 v. (A). Register of physicians and accoucheurs, showing name, date registered, name and address of school of practice, age and nativity, years of practice, dates of certificate or diploma and state license, and date of filing; also contains register of certificates of dentists, chiropodists, and osteopaths. Arr. alph. by name of principal. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 18 x 12 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.
47. PHYSICIANS CERTIFICATE RECORD, 1877---. 2 v. (A, B). Copies of certificates of physicians, showing number and date of certificate, name and age of physician, name and address of medical college of graduation, signatures of members of state board of health, and date of filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of physician. Hdw. on pr. fm. 238 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.
48. VETERINARY LICENSE RECORD, 1900---. 1 v. (1). Copies of veterinary licenses, showing number of license, name and address of veterinary, whether license given on diploma or on renewal, school of practice, date of license, signatures of members of state board, and date recorded. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of veterinary. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.
49. RECORD OF OPTOMETRY, 1916---. 1 v. (1). Copies of certificates of optometrists, showing number, dates of issue and expiration of certificate, name of optometrist, signatures of president and secretary of state board of optometry, and date of filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of optometrist. Hdw. on pr. fm. 240 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.
50. REGISTER CERTIFICATE OF NURSES, 1909---. 1 v. (1). No prior records. Copies of certificates of nurses, showing certificate number, name of nurse, date of examination, signatures of director of registration and education, and secretary of board, and date of filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of nurse. Hdw. on pr. fm. 134 p. 18 x 12 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.
51. ARCHITECT RECORD, 1897-1911. 1 v. Now kept by department of education and registration, Springfield, Illinois. Register of architects' licenses recorded by county clerk, showing name and address of architect, date of license, record book and page of copy of license, and date cancelled; also showing date of new license, and record book and page of new license. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of architect. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 340 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.



52. ARCHITECTS LICENSE RECORD, 1897-1911. 1 v. Now kept by department of education and registration, Springfield, Illinois. Transcripts of architects' licenses recorded by county clerk, showing number of license, name and address of architects, date license issued by state board of examiners, amount of fee, and dates of filing and recordation. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of architect. Hdw. on pr. fm. 340 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Militia Roll (See also entry 83)

53. MILITIA ROLL RECORD, 1861-62. 1 v. Discontinued. Militia roll showing name, address, age, occupation and rank of soldiers. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of soldier. Hdw. on pr. fm. 500 p. 16 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Estrays, Marks, and Brands (See also entry 67)

54. ESTRAY RECORD, 1839--. 3 v. Last entry 1915. Record of estrayed animals, showing name of party taking up stray, description of animal, date of impounding, name of justice of peace and affidavit of appraiser, amount appraised and costs, and date of posting of notice. Arr. chron. 1839-66, hdw.; 1867-1915, hdw. on pr. fm. 1839-66, binding and paper poor, writing faded. 131 p. - 478 p. 8 x 7 x $\frac{1}{2}$ - 16 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

55. CATTLE BRANDS, 1837-89. 2 v. Discontinued. Record of cattle brands, showing description of brand and animal, name of owner, and date of registration. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 p. 12 x 8 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

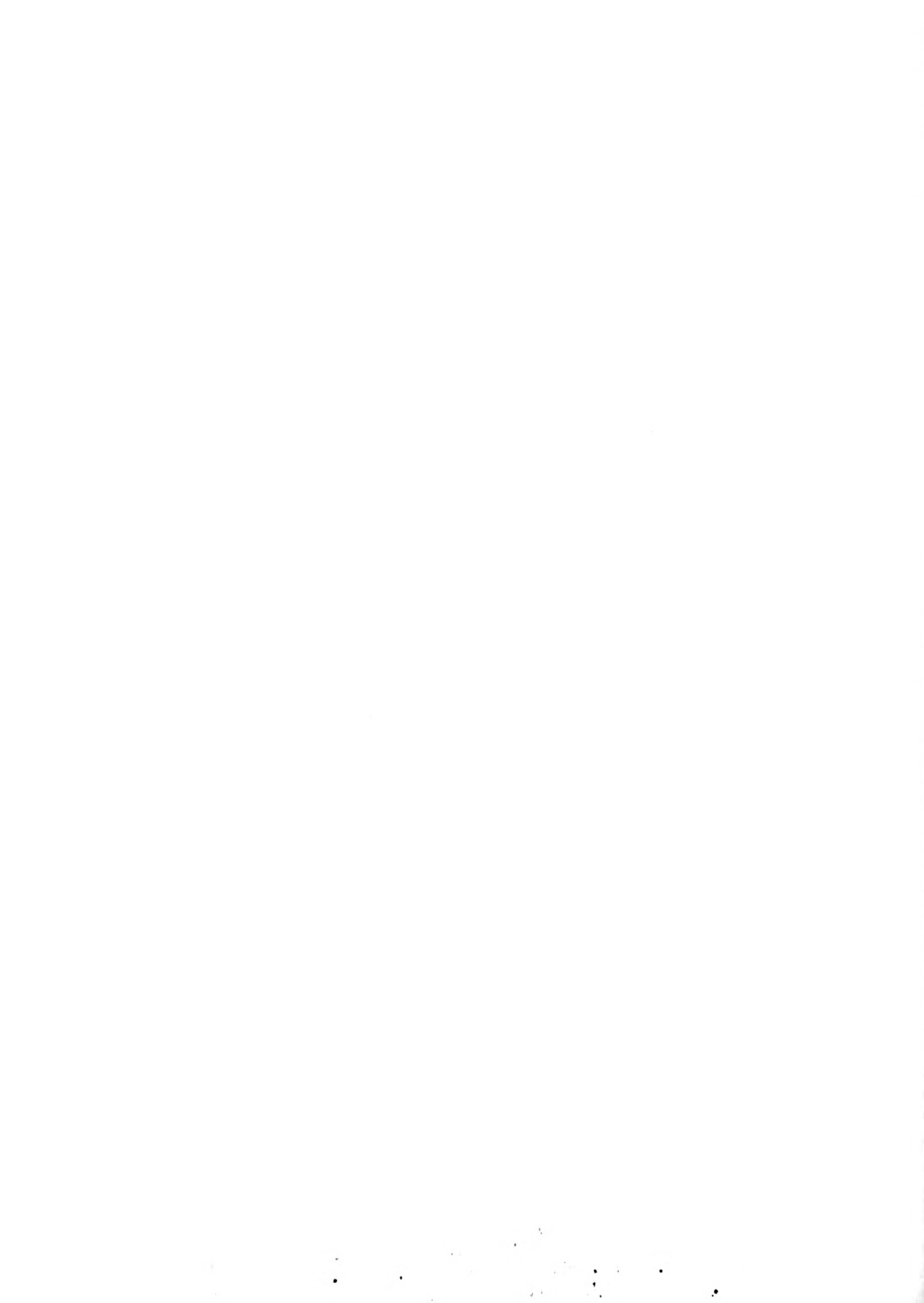
Dog Licenses (See also entries 191, 208)

56. RECORD DOG LICENSE, 1921--. 409 v. Prior records cannot be located. Duplicate copies of dog licenses, showing number and date of license, name of owner, breed and sex of dog, and amount of fee. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 25 p. 8 x 3 x $\frac{1}{2}$. 370 v., 1921-35, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 39 v., 1936--, treas.'s off., 1st fl.

Elections
(See also entry 67)

Election of County Officers

57. ELECTION JUDGES BOOK, 1904. 1 v. Discontinued. Record of election returns, showing number of unused ballots returned from elections, and date of return, names of judges of elections, and precinct number. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 40 p. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.



County Clerk - Bonds of Officers;
Fees, Receipts, and Expenditures

(58-63)

58. ILLINOIS REGISTER OF VOTERS, 1932--. 122 v.
Register of voters, showing name and address of voter, age, sex, precinct, ward, and date of registration. Arr. alph. by name of voter. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 25 p. 13 x 6 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

59. POLL BOOKS, 1918--. 442 v. Prior records cannot be located. Poll book and tally lists showing names, addresses, precinct and ward of voters, and record of votes cast at elections for candidates of each party. Arr. alph. by name of voter. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 25 p. 17 x 14 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Bonds of Officers
(See also entries 152, 212, 236)

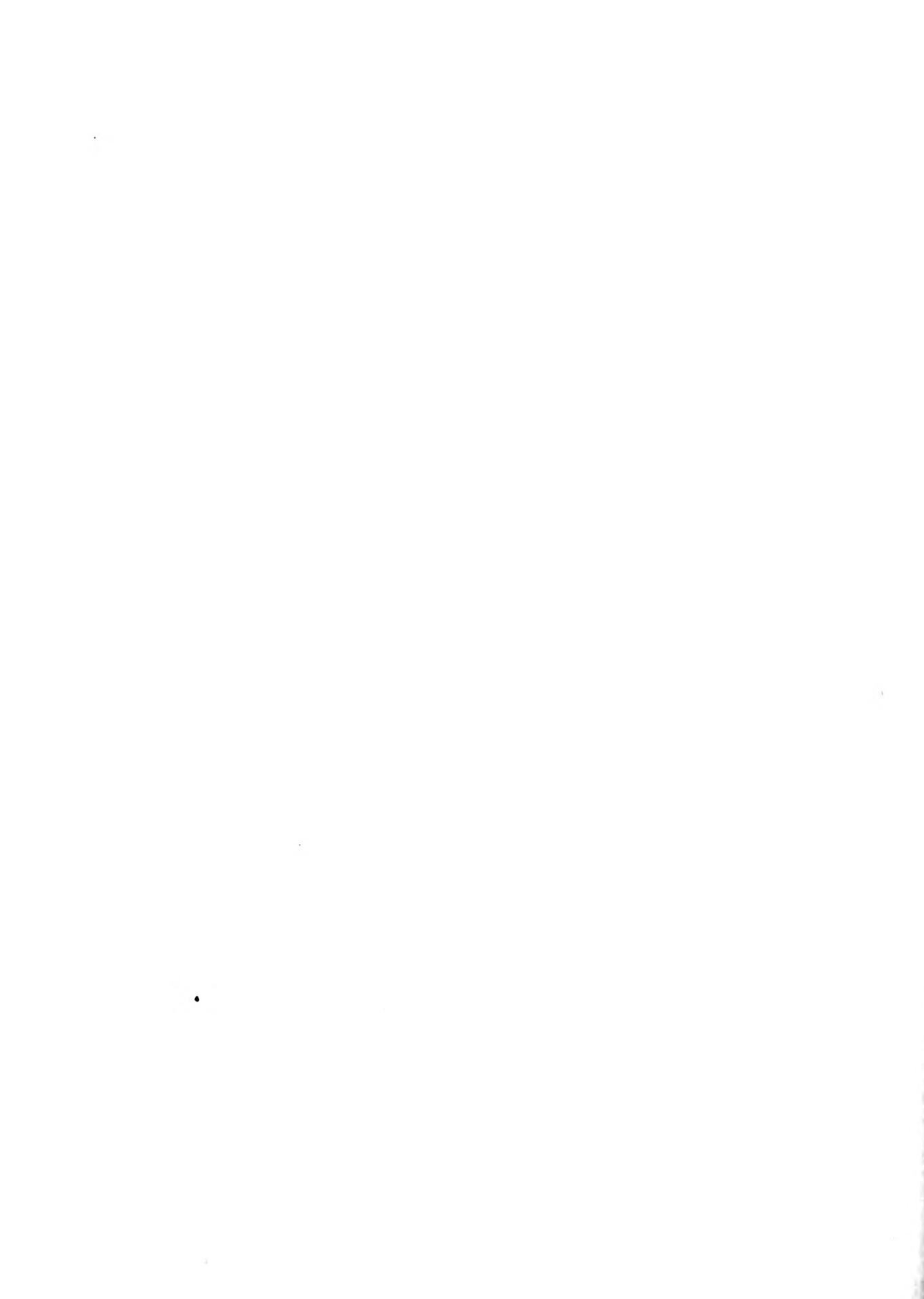
60. INDEX TO BONDS (Docket and Record of Examination Official Bonds), 1908--. 4 v. (5-8). Prior records cannot be located. Register of official bonds, showing name and title of principal and sureties, amount of bond, dates filed and approved, term of court examined, and orders of court. Title erroneous. Also contains Township Treasurers' and Collectors' Bond Record, 1919--, entry 61. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

61. TOWNSHIP TREASURERS' AND COLLECTORS' BOND RECORD, 1889-1918. 3 v. (C, D, D). 1919-- in Index to Bonds, entry 60. Register of bonds for township treasurers and collectors, showing names of principal and sureties, conditions and amount of bond, and date of filing. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 296 p. 18 x 12 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

62. ASSESSORS BOND RECORD, 1920--. 1 v. (2). Prior records cannot be located. Record of township assessors' bonds, showing name of assessor, sureties, and township, date and amount of bond, and date of expiration. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of assessor. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 13 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Fees, Receipts, and Expenditures

63. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES, 1918--. 2 v. (E, F). Prior records cannot be located. Register of fees received by county clerk, showing notary fees, marriage and miscellaneous license fees, and birth and death certificate fees; also showing itemized list of county claims and office expenses paid. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 480 p. 17 x 15 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.



64. COUNTY CLERK'S ACCOUNT WITH REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS, 1878--. 3 v. (2 not numbered, 1).

County clerk's account with registrars of births and deaths, showing names of physicians, county clerk, registrars and townships, number of districts and primary districts, number of births, stillbirths and deaths reported, dates of report and of filing by registrars, and amount of fees to be paid to each registrar. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of registrar. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. 2 v. not numbered, 1878-1918, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 1, 1919--, co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

For treasurer's register of fees on births and deaths, see entry 201.

65. COUNTY CLERK'S ACCOUNT WITH PHYSICIANS, 1902-3. 1 v.
Discontinued.

County clerk's account with physicians for reports of births and deaths, showing name and address of physician, dates reports received and certified, number of births and deaths reported, and total amount of fees paid. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of physician. Hdw. on pr. fm. 438 p. 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

For other records of birth and death report fees, see entry 64.

66. COUNTY CLERK'S REPORT TO AUDITOR, 1888--. 2 v. (A, B).

Reports of correct and audited statements of taxes reported to state auditor, for state and school purposes, showing date of report, class of property, county, township, and legal description of property. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. Binding poor. 158 p. 18 x 11 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Miscellaneous

67. (COUNTY CLERK'S MISCELLANEOUS FILE), 1840--. 746 f.b.
(734 not numbered; 1840--; B1-B12, 1900-1914).

Miscellaneous documents kept by county clerk including (County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Minutes), entry 1; (Cancelled County Orders), entry 9; (Reports to Commissioners' Court and to County Board), entry 19; (Special Assessment Rolls), entry 29; (Birth Certificates), 1878--, entry 35; (Death Certificates), 1878--, entry 38; (Marriage Licenses), entry 42; and (County Court Papers), entry 97; also abstract of votes, estray papers, highway claims, tax redemptions; abstracts of taxes, 1858--; statements of assessments and taxes, 1867--; naturalization papers, 1876-1906; lists of taxable lands; railroad schedules of value, 1855--; telegraph and telephone schedules of value, 1886--; bonds of administrators, guardians, and conservators; and applications for mothers' pension. Also contains School District Plats, 1848-59, entry 34, and (Probate Documents), 1840-1905, entry 117. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 93; for sep. index to county court papers, 1928--, see entry 98; for sep. index to death certificates, 1919--, see entry 39; for sep. index to birth certificates, 1919--, see entry 36; for sep. index to minutes of supervisors' meetings and reports to county board, see entry 3. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 5 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$. 652 f.b., 1840-1900, co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.; 94 f.b., 1901--, co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

IV. RECORDER

The recorder in Stephenson County was originally elected by the voters of the county.¹ Twelve years after the formation of the county the clerk of the circuit court became ex-officio recorder of deeds.² This ex-officio arrangement is continued under the Constitution of 1870 for counties of less than 60,000 of population. In Stephenson, this status of the office has persisted since 1849.

Before entering upon his ex-officio duties as recorder, the circuit clerk is required to provide a bond of \$10,000 and to subscribe to his oath of office. Both the written oath and bond are filed with the secretary of state. A copy of the bond is entered upon the records of the county court. Assistants and deputies are appointed by the recorder in such number as determined by rule of the circuit court and as entered upon the court record.³ The compensation of the assistants and deputies, is set by the county board of supervisors. The written oaths of the deputies are in like manner filed with the secretary of state.⁴

In Stephenson County the recorder is required to keep the following records:

1. An entry book in which data relating to date and order of receipt of instruments to be recorded or filed, and the names of parties and location of property with a brief description of the premises are entered. Each of such instruments is numbered by the recorder with the corresponding number of the entry. This book serves as a table of contents, with descriptive memoranda, for all instruments recorded at length or filed in the recorder's office.
2. Well-bound books for recording at length any instrument in writing entitled to be recorded, in the order of time of its reception. Separate books are allowed to be kept for the recording of different classes of instruments, and two distinct series of document numbers may be used for recording documents. One series preceded by the letter "B" may be used for recording bills of sales of personal property, chattel mortgages, releases, extensions and assignments thereof. The other series of document numbers is for all other instruments received for recordation.
3. Grantors' and grantees' indexes. In the grantors' index are

1. L.1835, p. 166. The recorder was elected for a two-year term until 1845 when the term was extended to four years. L.1845, p. 28.
2. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 63-66.
3. L.1845, p. 28.
4. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 63-66.



recorded the name of the grantor in alphabetical order and the name of the grantee. The grantees' index shows the name of the grantee in alphabetical order and the name of the grantor. Each index also shows the date of the instrument, time of receipt, kind of instrument, consideration, book and page in which it is recorded or the number under which it is filed, and a brief description of the premises.

4. Indexes to each book of record in which are entered, in alphabetical order, the name of each grantor and grantee and book and page in which the instrument is recorded. This series indexes instruments such as recorded by corporations, powers of attorney, chattel mortgages, etc.
5. An index to recorded maps and plats, based on location of property. Sometimes arranged by section, township, range, etc.
6. An abstract book, in effect indexing records by showing for each tract every conveyance or incumbrance recorded, its execution and filing date, and the book and page of its recordation. Series optional with county board.
7. A separate book to record certificates of honorable military, aviation, and naval discharges.¹

The recorder, in recording at length any instrument in writing, is permitted to make a handwritten or typewritten transcription of the same, or he may make photographic or photostatic reproduction, or he may use a combination of these methods of recordation.² In addition to the instruments received for recordation, the recorder is required, upon receipt, to file any instrument upon which is indorsed the words "this instrument to be filed, but not recorded." Such instruments include any mortgage, trust deed, or conveyance of personal property having the effect of a mortgage or lien upon such property. The recorder marks such instrument "filed" and enters the time of receipt and files the same in his office.³

Entry Books

68. ENTRY BOOK, 1845--. 57 v. (A-Z, 27-57).

Recordation of land entries, showing number of instrument, date of entry, names of grantor and grantee, legal description of property, amount of consideration, date of filing, and notation of release. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of grantor and grantee. 1845-52, hdw.; 1853--, hdw. on pr. fm. V. A, 1849, in poor condition. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. V. A-Z, 27-45, 1845-1920, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 46-57, 1921--, cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

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1. L.1819, p. 18,20,21; R.L.1829, p. 116,117; L.1847, p. 69; L.1853, p. 254; L.1867, p. 148; L.1869, p. 2; L.1871-72, p. 645,646; L.1873, p. 144; R.S.1874, p. 834-37; L.1917, p. 652; L.1925, p. 521; L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 214.
 2. L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 214.
 3. L.1927, p. 521; L.1929, p. 592-94; L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 860.



69. ENTRY OF CONVEYANCES, 1868-73. 1 v. Discontinued.

List of entries of land conveyances, showing names of grantor and grantee, date and number of entry, legal description of property, number of acres, and amount of consideration for which conveyed. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. Binding poor. 600 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

For prior and subsequent records of land entries, see entry 68.

Instruments Recorded

General

70. GENERAL INDEX GRANTOR AND GRANTEE, 1843--. 66 v. (A-Z, A-G, grantor; A-Z, A-G, grantee).

Index to recorded deeds and mortgages, showing names of grantor and grantee, or mortgagor and mortgagee, date, number, and kind of deed or mortgage, amount paid, legal description of property, where recorded, and date of filing. Arr. alph. by names of grantor and grantee. 1843-51, hdw.; 1852--, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 622 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

71. DEED RECORDS, 1837--. 152 v. (A-Z, 27-104, 106-117, 119-121, 123-131, 133-136, 138-143, 145, 146, 148-156, 158-160).

Recordation of all types of deeds and mortgages, showing names of grantor and grantee or mortgagor and mortgagee, number of instrument, dates of filing and recording, amount of consideration, legal description of property, affidavits, and signature and seal of circuit clerk. Also contains Trust Deed Record, 1837-1917, entry 73; Quit Claim Deed Record, 1837-1925, entry 74; Master's Deed Record, 1837-1933, entry 76; Mortgage Record, 1837-45, entry 77; Release Record, 1837-45, entry 78; and Chattel Mortgages, 1837-45, entry 79. Arr. chron. 1837-42, indexed alph. by names of grantor and grantee; for sep. index, 1843--, see entry 70. 1837-57, hdw.; 1858-1926, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1927--, typed. 640 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

72. MARGINAL INDEX, GRANTOR AND GRANTEE, 1907--. 3 v. (A, B, B). No prior marginal release index.

Index to marginal releases entered in margin of deed record, showing date of cancellation, and book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by names of grantor and grantee. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

Deeds

73. TRUST DEED RECORD, 1918--. 5 v. (105, 118, 122, 132, 137). 1837-1917 in Deed Records, entry 71.

Recordation of trust deeds, showing names of grantor, grantee or trustee, and second successor in trust, number of deed, dates of recording and filing, amount of consideration, legal description of property, affidavits, release record, and signatures of witnesses and circuit clerk. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 70. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Recorder - Instruments
Recorded

(74-78)

74. QUIT CLAIM DEED RECORD, 1926--. 1 v. (144). 1837-1925 in Deed Records, entry 71.

Recordation of quitclaim deeds, showing names of grantor and grantee, number of deed, dates of recording and filing, amount of consideration, legal description of property, affidavits, release record, signatures of witnesses, and signature and seal of circuit clerk. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 70. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

75. DEED RECORD, C. M. AND ST. P., 1927--. 1 v. (147).
Prior records not located.

Recordation of Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad deeds, showing names of grantor and grantee, dates of filing and recording, consideration, legal description of property, affidavits, and signature and seal of circuit clerk. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 70. Typed. 640 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

76. MASTER'S DEED RECORD, 1934--. 1 v. (157). 1837-1933 in Deed Records, entry 71.

Recordation of masters' deeds, showing names of master in chancery, plaintiff and defendant, dates of decree and sale, amount of highest bid, legal description of property, signature of master in chancery, affidavits, date of recording, and signature and seal of circuit clerk. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 70. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Mortgages - Real Estate

77. MORTGAGE RECORD, 1846--. 140 v. (A-Z, 26-139). 1837-45 in Deed Records, entry 71.

Recordation of real estate mortgages, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date of instrument, mortgage number, date filed, amount of mortgage, description of property, affidavits, date recorded, signatures of parties to instrument, and seal of circuit clerk. Also contains Release Record, 1846-67, entry 78, and Chattel Mortgages, 1846-56, entry 79. Arr. chron. 1846-73, indexed alph. by names of mortgagor and mortgagee; for sep. index, 1874--, see entry 70. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

78. RELEASE RECORD, 1868--. 10 v. (A-E, D, F-I). 1837-45 in Deed Records, entry 71; 1846-67 in Mortgage Record, entry 77.

Recordation of mortgage releases, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, consideration for which released, date of recordation of deed, record page number, number of mortgage, description of property, and date of release. Arr. chron. 1868-73, indexed alph. by names of mortgagor and mortgagee; for sep. index, 1874--, see entry 70. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Mortgages - Chattel

79. CHATTEL MORTGAGES, 1857--. 41 v. (A-T, V-Z, A-J, L, O, D, E, 1857--; 64, 69, 1885-92). 1837-45 in Deed Records, entry 71; 1846-56 in Mortgage Record, entry 77.

Recordation of chattel mortgages and chattel mortgage extensions, showing names of mortgagor, mortgagee, and agent, date and number of instrument, amount of mortgage, description of goods, affidavits of witnesses, date of recordation, and seal of circuit clerk. Arr. chron. 1857-73, indexed alph. by names of mortgagor and mortgagee; for sep. index, 1874--, see entry 70. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. V. A-H, O, E, 64, 69, 1857-1916, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. A, C, D, I-T, V-Z, 1916-35, cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.; v. B, D-J, L, 1928--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

80. CHATTEL MORTGAGES, 1933--. 12 f.b.
File of unrecorded and uncalled for chattel mortgages, showing description of property posted for collateral, names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date of filing, and mortgage number. Arr. by mortgage number. No index. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 5 x 14. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

Certificates of Levy (See also entry 151)

81. CERTIFICATE OF LEVY AND SALE, 1847-88. 5 v. (A-E). Discontinued. Recordation of sheriffs' certificates of levy and sale, showing name of purchaser, date and amount of sale, name of defendant to judgment, execution number, and date. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. 1847-69, hdw.; 1870-88, hdw. on pr. fm. 431 p. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

82. SHERIFF'S AND MASTER'S CERTIFICATE OF SALE RECORD, 1859--. 3 v. (C-E).

Recordation of sheriffs' and masters' certificates of sales, showing number of certificate, names of complainant and defendant, sheriff or master, legal description of property, amount and date of sale, and date recorded. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of complainant and defendant. Hdw. 430 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Other Instruments

83. SOLDIERS' DISCHARGE RECORD, 1864--. 2 v. (A, 1864-65; 1, 1920--). Copies of soldiers' discharges, showing name, rank, date of enlistment, date of discharge, occupation, name of commanding officer, and oath of indemnity. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of soldier. Hdw. on pr. fm. 570 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 x 3. V. A, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 1, cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

84. STALLION REGISTER, 1910-18. 2 v. Discontinued. Copies of certificates of pedigree issued by state board of agriculture and stallion registration board, showing stallion's registration and certificate numbers, name, color, and breed of stallion, name and address of owner, and name of examining veterinarian. Arr. alph. by name of owner. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 280 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

85. REGISTER OF NAMES OF LANDS, 1916--. 1 v. Last entry 1917. Register of farm names, showing name and address of owner, name of farm with legal description; also showing cancellation, date and release of all rights by owner. Arr. alph. by name of land owner. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 17 x 15 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

86. DEDICATION OF RIGHT OF WAY, 1921--. 2 v. 1879-1920 in Miscellaneous Record (Circuit Court Proceedings), entry 152. Recordation of land grants to State of Illinois for public road purposes, showing number of tract, location by township, section, and range, name of grantor, route number, amount of consideration, date filed, legal description of property, and number of acres. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 1050 p. 15 x 11 x 7. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

87. CERTIFICATES OF LAND PATENTS, 1843-55. 1 bdl. Discontinued. Certificates of land patents, showing number of certificate and date, to whom issued, location and legal description of land, number of acres, and signatures of President of the United States and general land recorder. Arr. chron. No index. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

88. LAND BOOK STEPHENSON COUNTY, 1843-76. 1 v. Discontinued. List of county lands sold by State of Illinois, showing name of purchaser, description of lands by section, township, and range, number and date of entry, with affidavit of state auditor to list. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. 200 p. $17\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 x 1. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

89. CERTIFICATES OF INCORPORATION, 1887--. 1 bdl. Certificates of incorporation issued by secretary of state, showing names of company and members of firm, object for which formed, capital stock, amount of each share, number of shares, location, and date. Arr. by certificate no. No index. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

90. CERTIFICATES OF PLATS, PLAT BOOK A, 1869-89. 1 v. Discontinued. Statements of correctness of plats in Plat Book A, as sworn to by county surveyors and deputies, and certified by recorder. Arr. chron. No index. Typod. 260 p. $11\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Maps and Plats

91. PLAT BOOK, 1843--. 6 v. (1 not lettered, A-E). Physical maps of county, showing subdivisions, additions to towns and villages, roads, townships, range and sections, with legal description of lands, and dates of survey and filing. Unlettered volume, 1843-69, shows original survey and plats of city of Freeport and other towns, also plat of extinct village of Yellow Creek. Original drawings and reproductions by county surveyor. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. 1843-1922, hand-drawn; 1923--, hand-drawn and blue print. 100 p. $24\frac{1}{2}$ x $20\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

92. INDEX TO PLATS, 1843--. 2 v. Index to plats and tracts, showing names of owner and township, numbers of range and section, and book and page number in plat record. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. Binding and paper poor, writing faded. 130 p. 14 x 9 x $\frac{3}{8}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

V. COUNTY COURT

The county court in Stephenson County serves as the judicial branch of county government. This court is administered by the county judge who is elected for a four-year term by the county electorate. Before entering upon the duties of his office, the county judge is required to take and subscribe to an oath which he files with the secretary of state. The compensation of the Stephenson county judge was originally set at two dollars and fifty cents per diem for holding court, which was paid quarterly out of the county treasury.¹ Today, the judge in this county receives a salary of \$3,240 per annum.² The court hears and determines matters in which it has original or concurrent jurisdiction, including appeals from the justices of the peace and police magistrates.³

The powers of the judiciary in Stephenson County originally were administered only by the justices of the peace, police magistrates, the probate justice, and the circuit court during the first twelve years of the county's history. Then, a civil and criminal court with jurisdiction co-extensive with the county lines, was established under the provisions of the Constitution of 1848 and legislation of 1849.⁴ The court created was the county court. The county judge, elected by the people of the county and commissioned by the Governor, has continued to administer this branch of county government from 1849 to the present.

The county court as established in 1849, was vested with the same civil and criminal jurisdiction as the justices of the peace. The county judge was made conservator of the peace for the county. He was given the same power and authority as the circuit court in preserving order in the court and punishing contempts offered the court while in session.⁵ Suits for sale of delinquent lands for taxes of 1848, and prior years, could be brought and presented in either the circuit or county court. But for taxes of subsequent years the county court was given exclusive original jurisdiction.⁶

In addition to its civil and criminal jurisdiction the court was vested with all the powers and jurisdiction in probate matters which were vested prior to this date in the court of the probate justice. In

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1. L.1849, p. 62,63. The judge's four-year term of office has remained effective from the organization of the court to the present. R.S.1874, p. 339; L.1933, p. 451.
 2. L.1925, p. 398; L.1933, p. 616.
 3. R.S.1874, p. 339; L.1881, p. 70.
 4. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 18; L.1849, p. 62.
 5. L.1849, p. 65; L.1859, p. 99; R.S.1874, p. 339; L.1933, p. 451.
 6. L.1849, p. 127.

its probate function, the court was given concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit court.¹ In Stephenson County, the county judge has served to the present in his ex-officio capacity as judge of the probate court.

The law jurisdiction of the county court in Stephenson County from 1874 to the present is concurrent with that of the circuit court in that class of cases: first, wherein the justices of the peace have jurisdiction where the value of the amount in controversy does not exceed one thousand dollars;² second, in all cases of appeals from justices of the peace and police magistrates; third, in all criminal offenses and misdemeanors where the punishment is not imprisonment in the penitentiary or death.³ The county court also has original jurisdiction in matters relating to indigent mothers,⁴ and jurisdiction over the persons of insane persons not charged with crime. The authority for appointment of conservators for the estate of insane persons is vested in the probate court.⁵

The county and circuit courts in this county have original jurisdiction in juvenile court matters. This jurisdiction is over matters dealing with dependent, neglected and delinquent children. The authority includes provision for the treatment, control, maintenance, adoption and guardianship of such children.⁶

In this class of cases the juvenile probation officer functions as an assistant of the county court in the administration of justice. Provision was first made for a probation officer under the laws of 1899. The legislation of this year provided for the appointment of probation officers by the court to serve without compensation from the public treasury and at the pleasure of the court. In 1907 this provision was changed and the probation officer was compensated at a rate fixed by the court not in excess of the statutory limitation. If more than one juvenile probation officer is appointed, one is designated the chief probation officer, who is to have one year's active experience in social welfare work.

The officer under consideration makes investigation on order of the court and takes charge of the child before and after the trial. He is required to be present at the court hearings in order that he may represent

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1. L.1849, p. 65; L.1859, p. 99.
 2. Under the laws of 1872, the jurisdiction was in cases not exceeding \$500; L.1871-72, p. 325. The revised laws of 1874, and subsequent legislation extended the jurisdiction to cases wherein the amount involved was not over \$1000; R.S.1874, p. 339. An amendment to the act of 1874 was passed on May 8, 1933, which extended the jurisdiction to \$2000 and the amendment of the same session passed June 21, 1933 placed the jurisdiction in cases where the amount involved is not over \$1000. L.1933, p. 449, 452.
 3. R.S.1874, p. 339; L.1877, p. 77; L.1933, p. 448.
 4. L.1913, p. 127; L.1915, p. 243; L.1921, p. 164; L.1934, p. 256.
 5. L.1893, p. 140.
 6. L.1899, p. 131; L.1901, p. 141; L.1905, p. 152; L.1907, p. 70; L.1925, p. 187.

the interests of the child. This officer also furnishes information and assistance as required by the court.

Upon petition filed with the clerk of the court for the removal of a neglected or dependent child from the custody of its parent(s) or guardian, process is issued for appearance. The said summons may be served by the sheriff or the duly appointed probation officer.

At any time after the filing of petition, and pending final disposition, the court may allow the child to remain in the possession of its custodian, in its home subject to the visitation of the probation officer, or in custody of the probation officer.¹ If, upon hearing the case, the court finds the child to be dependent or neglected the court may commit the child to an association or institution, or allow the child to remain in his home subject to the visitation of the probation officer.² In a similar fashion, the probation officer for adults, an appointee of the circuit court, assists the county court in the administration of justice among the adult violators.

In cases of delinquency, if the court finds any child to be delinquent, the court may commit the child to an institution or to the custody of the probation officer. The court may also, upon its discretion, send juvenile offenders and vagrants to the state reform school rather than to the county jail.³ Appeals may be taken in any of these classes of juvenile cases to the circuit court.⁴

For juvenile court records, see entry 94.

Another probation officer, also an appointee of the county court, assists the court in mothers' pension cases. The state and county funds for indigent mothers and their children are administered by the county court, its appointed probation officer or officers, the county board of supervisors with the assistance of the county clerk, the county treasurer, and the state department of public welfare. The county court, however, is given original jurisdiction in these matters.⁵

A mother whose husband is dead or incapacitated, or who is abandoned by her husband, is entitled to the benefits of the mothers' pension fund. Such mother may file an application for relief with the county court. The cases of the applicant is then investigated by the probation officer under the direction of the court.

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1. L.1907, p. 74; L.1911, p. 126; L.1923, p. 181.
 2. L.1899, p. 133; L.1901, p. 141; L.1905, p. 152; L.1907, p. 73,74; L.1911, p. 126; L.1925, p. 187.
 3. L.1899, p. 134; L.1901, p. 141; L.1905, p. 153; L.1907, p. 75; L.1925, p. 187.
 4. L.1899, p. 131; L.1901, p. 141; L.1923, p. 180.
 5. L.1913, p. 127; L.1915, p. 243; L.1921, p. 164; L.1935, p. 256.

A report and recommendation indicating the approval or disapproval of such application is made by this officer to the court. If the application is approved the probation officer or other person may file with the clerk of the court a written petition, verified by affidavit, setting forth the facts giving the court jurisdiction and other facts upon which an order for relief may be entered. Upon receipt of the petition a summons is issued to the mother and the county board of supervisors for appearance. At the hearing the court may order the county board to pay monthly such money as may be necessary for the care of the mother and her child or children in accordance with the provisions of law.

To carry out this procedure the county court appoints the probation officer who serves during the pleasure of the court and is compensated for his services by the county board. As noted above, this officer investigates all applications for relief and makes a written report to the court. In addition to this duty, the probation officer makes quarterly visits to, and supervises under direction of the court, the families to which such assistance has been granted.¹ The rate of compensation is set by the county board of supervisors.

The county board of supervisors annually levies a tax on all taxable property to provide for the mothers' pension fund. The levy is made not in excess of two-thirds of one mill on a dollar in Stephenson County.² Also, the General Assembly from time to time appropriates funds to the state department of public welfare, which funds are distributed to the several counties as a part of the pension fund. To become entitled to the state appropriation the county must meet the standards of administration set by the state agency. The county treasurer certifies to the state department an itemized statement, attested by the county clerk, of the money paid out in accordance with the legislative provisions for this pension, and also the total assessment and levy for this purpose.³

For applications for mothers' pensions, see entry 67; for county court record of mothers' pensions allowed, see entry 114.

Jurisdiction in the election procedure is vested variously in the county board of supervisors, the county court and the county clerk. The Stephenson county court performs an important function in this procedure. In each city, village, and incorporated town there is a board of election commissioners composed of three appointees of the county court who serve alternately for three-year terms.⁴ The election boards are charged with the organization of election districts and precincts, the appointment of judges and clerks of

1. L.1933, p. 194; L.1935, p. 256.

2. L.1919, p. 780,781; L.1927, p. 196,197; L.1928, Sp. Sess., p. 3; L.1933, p. 194.

3. L.1935, p. 256.

4. L.1885, p. 142; L.1899, p. 157; L.1917, p. 445; L.1929, p. 399; L.1933, p. 534; L.1935-36, Fourth Sp. Sess., p. 33.

election, provision for election ballots, and the application of the rules and regulations for permanent registration and elections.¹ The county court has original jurisdiction in election contests for certain county, district, and township offices.²

The county judge, state's attorney, and county clerk make up the membership of the county officers electoral board which hears objections to nominations for any office of the county, park district, or other division coterminous or less than the county and other than a city, village, incorporated town or township. The several nomination papers for county offices are filed with the county clerk and are considered valid unless objections are made within five days after the last day for filing such papers.

The objector's petition is filed with the county clerk who presents the same, together with the certificate of nomination or the nomination papers, before the electoral board.⁴ The petition contains the objector's name, residence, nature of objection, interest of objector, and the action sought of the board.⁵ A notice of the hearing is sent to the candidate. Upon hearing the objections the majority decision of the board is final. In the event one of the members of the board is a candidate to the office objected to, then the circuit judge is required to fill the place on the board.⁶

Housing corporations may be organized in Illinois for the express purpose of improving housing conditions under an act of 1933.⁷ Such corporations are subject to the supervision and control of the state housing board. This state agency has authority, after investigations and public hearings, to approve the acquisition of property and construction of housing projects. If the state housing board approves a project over the objections of ten percent of the property owners within a mile, but not included in the project, it must then file an application with the clerk of the county court to the county judge for the confirmation of its approval. Such application is to contain copies of the findings and order of the board, transcript of the testimony, description of the project and public spaces, statement of location, and reasons for approval by the board. The objectors to the project may file objections to the confirmation of such project. The county judge is then to examine the application, objections, and any additional evidence before rendering a decision of "approval" or "not approval" of the application.⁸

1. L.1885, p. 142; L.1899, p. 157; L.1917, p. 445; L.1929, p. 399; L.1933, p. 534; L.1935-36, Fourth Sp. Sess., p. 33.

2. L.1895, p. 170.

3. L.1891, p. 110, 111; L.1929, p. 394.

4. L.1891, p. 111; L.1929, p. 394; L.1933, p. 552.

5. L.1929, p. 394, 395.

6. L.1933, p. 552.

7. L.1933, p. 396; L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 167.

8. Ibid.

Appeals from the judgments and decisions of the county court may be taken to the circuit court.¹ To the appellate or supreme court may be taken and prosecuted appeals and writs of error in proceedings for the sale of lands for taxes and special assessments, in all common law and attachment cases, and cases of forcible detainer and forcible entry and detainer. Such appeals and writs of error are, when not otherwise provided, taken and prosecuted in the same manner as appeals and writs of error from the circuit court.²

The records of the county court are kept by the clerk of the county court.

VI. CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT

In Stephenson County the county clerk is ex-officio clerk of the county court. In addition to the statutory records described below, the clerk necessarily maintains others in effecting the court's orders.³

For the court, the clerk keeps the following records:

1. Books of record of the proceedings and judgments of the court, with alphabetical indexes by names of parties. Proceedings are recorded at length only in cases designated by law, or when the court, at the motion and assumption of expenses by one of the parties, so orders. In practice, the court record has been broken down from an early date into segregated types of proceedings and judgments.
2. "Plaintiff-Defendant Index to Court Records" and "Defendant-Plaintiff Index to Court Records." Intended to be separate records, but frequently combined in a single volume with the two indexes segregated in each volume.
3. A general docket, in which all suits are entered in the order they are commenced.
4. A judgment and execution docket, containing a column for the entry of satisfaction or other disposition. In practice an execution docket is frequently set up independently.

1. R.S.1874, p. 339; L.1933, p. 396.

2. R.S.1874, p. 339; L.1877, p. 77; L.1881, p. 66.

3. The form which such records take is generally determined by court order. L.1849, p. 66; R.S.1874, p. 263.

5. Additional dockets, designated as the clerk's, judge's and bar docket. In practice, the bar docket has tended to drop out of use.¹
6. A fee book, in which costs and fees are to be entered under the proper title of the cause. In practice separate series of volumes are maintained under these titles of causes.
7. Transcripts of proceedings in appeals from justices' courts, dockets thereof, and transcripts of judgment for liens, etc., from justices' courts.
8. Naturalization records, including petitions, proceedings, final certificates, etc. The county courts in Illinois prior to 1906 met the requirements of Federal Statutes to exercise naturalization jurisdiction.²
9. Original documents used in court hearings and determinations; of particular importance in the large number of cases where complete proceedings are not spread on court record.³
10. Monthly reports of the warden of the county jail containing a list of all prisoners in his custody, and showing the causes of commitment and persons by whom committed.⁴

Proceedings of Court

93. GENERAL INDEX, 1840---. 2 v.

Index to all proceedings of county and probate courts, showing names of parties in full, file box number of documents, dates of instruments, and type of action. Also contains Index to Births, 1878-1918, entry 36, and Index to Deaths, 1878-1918, entry 39. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. 1840-79, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1880---, typed. 640 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

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1. The Civil Practice Act of 1933 grants to county courts, subject to rules promulgated by the supreme court and not inconsistent with statutory requirements, to make such rules as they may deem expedient, regulating dockets and calendars of said court. L.1933, p. 785, sec. 2.
 2. U.S.S.1802, p. 153; U.S.R.S.1874, p. 378.
 3. R.S.1845, p. 57,323,324,414,418,419; L.1865, p. 79,80; L.1871-72, p. 325; R.S.1874, p. 262,263,339; L.1877, p. 77; L.1933, p. 448,451; U.S.S.1802, p. 153-55; U.S.R.S.1874, p. 378-80; U.S.S.1906, p. 598-607; U.S.S.1915, p. 736-38; U.S.S.1926, p. 709,710.
 4. R.S.1874, p. 616; L.1933, p. 677.

94. COUNTY COURT RECORD (Proceedings of County and Probate Courts), 1837--. 96 v. (A-Z, 1-70).

Record of proceedings of county and probate courts; county court records beginning in 1851, show names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, date, type of case, and proceedings and orders of the court; includes default record, confession record, and dependency and delinquency records. (Probate Court Records), entry 117, show names of estate, deceased, attorneys, dates, proceedings of court, and court orders. Also contains County Court Record Claims Contested, 1912--, entry 96; Recognizance Cash Bail, 1837-1931, entry 112; and Probation Record, 1837-1932, entry 113. Arr. chron. 1837-1915, hdw.; 1916--, typed. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

95. INDEX COUNTY COURT RECORDS, 1837--. 96 v. (A-Z, 1-70).

Index to county court and probate records, showing names of parties to actions, and book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 38 p. 17 x 11 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

96. COUNTY COURT RECORD CLAIMS CONTESTED, 1887-1911. 2 v. (2, 5). 1912-- in County Court Record (Proceedings of County and Probate Courts), entry 94.

Record of contested county claims, including probate claims against estates, showing date and terms of court, amount of claim, names of attorneys, trials by court or jury, amount of judgment, and date filed. Arr. alph. by names of principal parties. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

97. (COUNTY COURT PAPERS), 1840--. In (County Clerk's Miscellaneous File), entry 67.

Original documents of common law and criminal cases in county court, including probation and dependency papers, summonses, appeals, and all court orders.

98. INDEX TO PEOPLES AND OTHER CASES, 1928--. 1 v.

Index to county court cases, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, and document number. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 250 p. 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

For other index to county court files, see entry 93.

99. FRAECIPE FOR SUBPOENA, 1874. 1 v. Discontinued.

Orders to county clerk on issuance of subpoena to sheriff for plaintiff and defendant in all cases in county court. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 125 p. 14 x 9 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

100. FRAECIPES FOR EXECUTION, 1872-93. 1 v. Discontinued.

Court execution orders showing date and term of court, names of plaintiff and defendant, order of execution, to whom directed, names of attorneys, and date of execution. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. Binding poor. 125 p. 14 x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Dockets

Court Dockets

101. COUNTY COURT DOCKET, 1888--. 5 v. (1, A-D). Title varies: Court Docket. Prior records cannot be located.

Docket of common law and criminal cases in county court, showing date and term of court, action or case number, names of attorneys, plaintiff, and defendant, order of previous term, and orders of court. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 2. V. 1, 1888-92, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. A-D, 1893--., co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

102. JUDGES' DOCKET, 1872--. 8 v. (4 not lettered, A-D).

Court docket showing date and term of court, names of attorneys, type of action, and book and page of entry. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 1872-1923, binding poor. 204 p. - 800 p. 18 x 12 x 1 - 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4. 4 v. not lettered, 1872-1923, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. A-D, 1924--., co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

103. JUDGMENT AND EXECUTION DOCKET, 1935--. 1 v. (1).

Docket of judgments and executions, showing number and kind of action, names of plaintiff and defendant, date of judgment and execution, sheriff's return, satisfaction, fees earned and received, date paid, and remarks of court. Formerly kept as Judgment Docket including Execution Docket, entries 104, 105. Also contains Sheriff's Execution Docket (Execution and Process Docket), 1935--., entry 164. Arr. alph. by name of person against whom judgment is entered. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

104. JUDGMENT DOCKET, 1872-1934. 1 v. 1935-- in Judgment and Execution Docket, entry 103.

Docket of judgments, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date and term of court, date and type of action, amount of judgment and costs, date of execution, to whom delivered, and satisfaction. Also contains Execution Docket, 1903-34, entry 105, and Sheriff's Execution Docket (Execution and Process Docket), 1881-1934, entry 184. Arr. alph. by name of person against whom judgment is entered. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 500 p. 18 x 13 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

105. EXECUTION DOCKET, 1873-1902. 1 v. 1903-34 in Judgment Docket, entry 104; 1935-- in Judgment and Execution Docket, entry 103.

Docket of executions, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date and term of court, dates of writ and return, date and amount of judgment, items of costs, and names of attorneys. Arr. alph. by name of person against whom judgment is entered. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 414 p. 18 x 13 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Clerk of the County Court -
Fee Books

(106-111)

106. INSANITY DOCKET, 1893--. 3 v. (A-C).

Docket of insane cases, showing names of insane person and petitioner, names and affidavits of two witnesses, and of physician, date and place of hearing, verdict, names of jurors, and court orders. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of insane person. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

107. JUDGES DOCKET FEEBLE-MINDED, 1916-25. 1 v. 1872-1915, 1926--
in Judges' Docket Guardian's and Conservators, entry 139.

Docket of hearings of feeble-minded cases, showing name of defendant, case number, title, dates and proceedings of court, names of petitioner, examining physician, witnesses, date, and orders of court. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 240 p. 18 x 12 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Justices' Dockets

108. JUSTICE DOCKET, 1839-1918. 60 v. Subsequent dockets kept by
local justices.

Docket of proceedings in justice of the peace courts, showing names of parties to action, type of action, date of hearing, and orders of justice. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 8 v., 1839-91, binding very poor. 347 p. 14 x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Fee Books

109. FEE BOOK COMMON LAW, 1900--. 1 v. 1882-99 in Law and Criminal
Fee Book, entry 110.

Itemized list of fees in common law cases, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date and term of court, total amount of fees, and date reported. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 584 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

110. LAW AND CRIMINAL FEE BOOK, 1882--. 4 v. (B, B, C, C).

Fee book for criminal and law cases, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date and term of court, amounts of plaintiff's and defendant's costs, date reported, names of witnesses, and amount of witness fees. Contains Fee Book Common Law, 1882-99, entry 109. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 580 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

111. FINES AND FORFEITURES RECORD, 1890-1910. 1 v. Discontinued.

County clerk's account of fines and forfeitures, showing date and term of court, name of defendant, amounts of fine and forfeiture, name of officer charged with collection, amount collected, total receipts and credits, and balance due county. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 296 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Clerk of the County Court -
Bonds; Probation; Public Assistance;
Naturalization

(112-115)

Bonds

112. RECOGNIZANCE CASH BAIL, 1932--. 1 v. (1). 1837-1931 in County Court Record (Proceedings of County and Probate Courts), entry 94.

Copies of bail bonds, showing date and term of court, names of plaintiff and defendant, type of crime, amount of bond, date approved, name of judge, and date filed. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 264 p. 16 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Probation

(See also entry 97)

113. PROBATION RECORD, 1933--. 1 v. (1). 1837-1932 in County Court Record (Proceedings of County and Probate Courts), entry 94.

Probation court orders showing date and term of court, names of judge, sheriff, county clerk, state's attorney, and probationer, nature of crime, amount of bond, names of sureties, and order of court. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of probationer. Hdw. on pr. fm. 132 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. Co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

Public Assistance

114. MOTHERS' PENSION RECORD, 1916--. 1 v. (1). No prior records. Record of mothers' pensions allowed, showing name of applicant, names and ages of dependent children, judge's order, docket and page number, amount allowed monthly, date, number, and amount of warrant, and to whom issued. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of applicant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 238 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

For original applications, see entry 67.

Naturalization

(See also entries 67, 176-180)

115. NATURALIZATION RECORD, 1876-1906. 6 v. (A-D, C, D).

Record of naturalization proceedings showing term of court, name of alien, declaration of intention, petitions, affidavits of witnesses, oath of allegiance, final certificate, and signatures of judge and county clerk. Arr. by declaration no. Indexed alph. by name of citizen. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

VII. PROBATE COURT

In Stephenson County a separate probate court is not maintained, the function of this court being delegated to the county court. In this ex-officio capacity, the county court has original jurisdiction in all matters of probate, the settlement of estates of deceased persons, the appointment of guardians and conservators and settlement of their accounts, matters relating to apprentices, proceedings by executors and administrators for sale of real estate, and proceedings for the collection of taxes and special assessments of property in probate.¹ The court has power to impanel a jury for the trial of issues or matters of fact in any of these matters before it.²

In 1837 the General Assembly provided for the election of one additional justice of the peace for each county, such justice to be styled the "probate justice of the peace" of his county. This justice, elected by the county electorate, was vested with judicial power over probate matters. In all cases of the exercise of such judicial power the justice was to report his proceedings to the circuit court, and, such court approving, the proceedings were to be considered as a matter of record of that court.³ This office was elective for a four-year term until 1845, when the term was reduced to two years.⁴ In 1849 probate jurisdiction was transferred to the newly-created county court, which court has retained such jurisdiction until the present.⁵

When acting in matters of the administration of estates of decedents, minors, and incompetents, the county court may, after due notice to all interested parties, appoint a referee. A party to such proceedings may object in writing, prior to the appointment, to such appointment. The person appointed, a licensed attorney, has authority to take testimony in such cause or proceedings and to report the same in writing, together with his conclusions of law and fact, to the court. The court may then render and enter a proper judgment order or decree upon such report. Either party may except to such report and have his exception heard and determined by the court. In which instance, the court hears, if necessary, further evidence or refers the cause or proceedings back to the referee with instructions. The costs of the services of the referee are entered as judgment against the unsuccessful party, or the respective parties, upon final hearing. All the testimony taken before the referee and all the exhibits and papers introduced in evidence, and the report of the referee, are included in and form part of the record of the cause or proceedings.⁶

1. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 20; R.S.1874, p. 339,340; L.1877, p. 80.

2. R.S.1845, p. 339; L.1933, p. 459.

3. L.1837, p. 176.

4. R.S.1845, p. 426.

5. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16,18; L.1849, p. 64,65; R.S.1874, p. 339,340.

6. L.1923, p. 312,313.

Aiding the court in its jurisdiction over the administration of intestate estates and the guardianship of minors are the public administrator and the public county guardian. Each officer is appointed for Stephenson County quadrennially by the Governor with the advice and consent of the senate. The public administrator and public county guardian are required to enter into bonds set and approved by the probate court in sums not less than \$5000.¹ Their duties are performed under the direction and orders of the court. The records that result from their prescribed duties appear among the records of the court with those of other administrators, executors, and guardians.

When there is no relative or creditor who will administer an intestate estate, the court, upon application of any person interested in the deceased estate, commits the administration to the public administrator.² If, within six months after the administration is granted to the public administrator, a widow, next of kin, or creditor of the deceased appears, the court then revokes the letters of administration to the public administrator and grants the same to the person thus entitled to such administration. After the debits of an intestate estate are paid and notice is published of a remaining amount of unclaimed estate, there being no claims presented within six months, this balance is paid into the county treasury, the county remaining answerable for the same to any future claims.³

As already noted, the court has authority to appoint guardians of minors of deceased persons.⁴ In cases where the minor is under fourteen years of age the court appoints his guardian. When the minor is over fourteen, he may nominate his own guardian subject to the approval of the court.⁵ Under the direction of the court, the guardian has custody, nurture and tuition of his ward, and the care and management of his estate. The court may grant the guardianship of the estate to one guardian and the custody and tuition of the ward to another.⁶ Within sixty days after his appointment the guardian returns to the probate court a complete inventory of the real and personal estate of the ward in the form prescribed by law.⁷ At the end of the first year of his appointment and every three years thereafter he makes a settlement of his accounts. When his trust is completed, or upon the death of the ward, the guardian makes final settlement and delivers over to the proper persons the property and papers in his custody as guardian.⁸ Upon failure of a guardian appointed by the court to act within three months in this capacity, the court commits the guardianship of such minor to the public guardian.⁹ The latter's records appear with those of other guardians.

The records of the probate court are kept by the clerk of the probate court.

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1. L.1825, p. 70; R.L.1829, p. 209; R.L.1833, p. 627,628; R.S.1845, p. 548; L.1871-72, p. 77; L.1881, p. 3; L.1889, p. 165.
 2. R.L.1833, p. 628; R.S.1845, p. 548; L.1871-72, p. 77.
 3. R.S.1845, p. 549; L.1871-72, p. 77.
 4. L.1831, p. 100; L.1835, p. 36; R.S.1845, p. 265,266; L.1873-74, p. 107; L.1919, p. 582; L.1931, p. 618; L.1937, p. 660.
 5. Ibid.
 6. L.1871-72, p. 469; L.1877, p. 114.
 7. L.1919, p. 582; L.1933, p. 644.
 8. L.1871-72, p. 469; L.1919, p. 582; L.1929, p. 506.
 9. L.1889, p. 165.

VIII. CLERK OF THE PROBATE COURT

The probate justice of the peace, 1837-1849, performed the ministerial function of the probate clerk.¹ From the creation of the county court in Stephenson County in 1849 until the present the county clerk has served as ex-officio probate clerk.² He is required to attend the sessions of the court, issue all process, preserve all files and pages thereof, make, keep, and preserve complete records of all proceedings and determinations, do and perform all other duties pertaining to his office as required by law or the rules and orders of his court, and enter as of record all judgments, decrees, and orders of the court.³

The major records of the probate court, which are kept by the clerk, are:

1. Journal of all judicial proceedings and determinations of the judge.
2. A judgment docket with direct and indirect indexes; former by name of claimant against estate, latter by estate. In practice, the requirement of two indexes often leads to two dockets.
3. Books for recordation of bonds, letters of administration, and appointments of executors and guardians; appraisement and sale bills; widows' relinquishment and selection of property; wills and the probate thereof; annual and final reports of administrators, executors, and guardians. Generally, each category of these probate business matters is recorded separately, but the segregation is not always carefully maintained.
4. Separate dockets of unsettled estates and claims against estates, and a ledger of the accounts of executors, administrators, and guardians. Note that the dockets of probate business matters are separated from dockets of court proceedings, just as are the books of recordation of the two categories; the intention of the law to make this distinction is further shown in its granting the clerk, during vacation of the court, power to receive petitions, accept bonds, grant letters testamentary, etc.
5. Files of original documents not subject to recordation; indexes of such; records of office transactions in pursuance of the court's orders to the clerk necessary in the latter's settlement with that body.⁴

1. L.1837, p. 176; R.S.1845, p. 427,428.

2. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16,18; L.1849, p. 64,65; R.S.1874, p. 339,340.

3. L.1877, p. 79; L.1881, p. 72; L.1933, p. 458,459.

4. R.L.1837, p. 429; R.S.1845, p. 427,428; L.1851, p. 193; L.1859, p. 92-94; R.S.1874, p. 260-65; L.1877, p. 63; L.1933, p. 293.

Clerk of the Probate
Court - Proceedings of
Court; Probate Business

(116-119)

Proceedings of Court

116. (PROBATE DOCUMENTS), 1906--. 99 f.b. (A1-A12, C1-C18, 1906-26; 69 not labeled, 1908--). 1840-1905 in (County Clerk's Miscellaneous File), entry 67.

Miscellaneous probate papers, including bonds, oaths, letters, petitions, and reports of administrators, executors, guardians, and conservators, wills, petition for probate of wills, widows' awards and selections, decrees, estate appraisals and inventories, and other estate papers. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 93. $10\frac{1}{2}$ x 5 x $13\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

117. (PROBATE COURT RECORDS), 1837--. In County Court Record (Proceedings of County and Probate Courts), entry 94.

Probate court records including will record, letters and reports of administrators, executors, and guardians, estate inventories and appraisements, and personal property and real estate sale records, with names of estate, deceased, and attorneys, dates, proceedings of court, and court orders.

118. COUNTY COURT CLAIMS RECORD (Probate), 1887--. 6 v. (1-6). 1859-86 in Probate Judgment Docket, entry 140.

Record of proceedings in claims against estates in probate court, showing names of claimant, administrator, and deceased, date and term of court, amount of claim, judge's decree, notation of recording in judge's and probate docket, and book and page number of entry. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. on pr. fm. 560 p. 18 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

For other records of claims against estates, see entry 96.

Probate Business

Wills, Bonds, Letters (See
also entries 116, 117, 152)

119. WILL RECORD, 1842--. 32 v. (6 v. not lettered, A-Z). Copies of wills, showing date, names of deceased, executor, and witnesses, terms of bequest, and date filed; also record of wills under petition in probate, showing date and term of court, date of death, date ordered for probate, and true copy of affidavits. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. 1842-66, hdw.; 1867--, hdw. on pr. fm. 580 p. - 275 p. 18 x 13 x 3 - 12 x 8 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

120. ADMINISTRATORS' BONDS AND LETTERS, 1858--. 9 v. (A-H, H).
Copies of administrators' petitions, oaths, bonds, and letters, showing names of deceased, administrator, sureties and witnesses, and date and amount of bond. Also contains De Bonis Non With Will Annexed Record, 1858-1923, entry 121, and Additional Bond Record, 1916--, entry 124. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. on pr. fm. 598 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

121. DE BONIS NON WITH WILL ANNEXED RECORD, 1924--. 1 v. (1).
1858-1923 in Administrators' Bonds and Letters, entry 120.
Copies of petitions, oaths, bonds, and letters of administrator de bonis non, showing names of deceased and administrator, date and amount of bond, names of sureties, and date of filing for recordation. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. on pr. fm. 580 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s private off., 1st fl.

122. GUARDIANS' RECORD, 1858--. 6 v. (A-F).
Copies of guardians' petitions, oaths, bonds, and letters, showing names of guardian, heirs, and estate, amount and date of bond, names of sureties and petitioners, and date of filing. Also contains Guardians' Ledger, 1872--, entry 135. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. on pr. fm. 540 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

123. EXECUTORS' BONDS AND LETTERS, 1858--. 8 v. (A-H).
Copies of executors' petitions, oaths, bonds and letters, showing names of executor and deceased, date and term of court, and names of witnesses. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. on pr. fm. 584 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

124. ADDITIONAL BOND RECORD, 1865-1915. 1 v. 1916-- in Administrators' Bonds and Letters, entry 120.
Copies of additional bonds of administrators and executors, showing name of estate, date and amount of bond, names of sureties, and dates of approval and recordation. Arr. alph. by name of estate. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. Binding poor. 238 p. 18 x 13 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Inventories and Appraisements (See
also entries 116, 117)

125. INVENTORY RECORD, 1859--. 24 v. (A-X).
Inventories of estates, showing names of deceased, executor or administrator, conservator, guardian, date of inventory, value of real estate and personal property, notes and accounts, dates, and status. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. 1859-1921, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1922--, typed. 598 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

126. APPRAISEMENT RECORD, 1858--. 12 v. (A-L).

Lists of appraisements, showing names of deceased, and appraiser, date and term of court, oath of appraiser, estimate amount widow's selection and relinquishment, articles appraised and value, and date filed. Also contains Widow's Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1858-90, entry 127. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. 1858-1923, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1924--, typed. 598 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection
(See also entries 116, 117)

127. WIDOW'S RELINQUISHMENT AND SELECTION RECORD, 1891--. 3 v.
(A, 1, 2). 1858-90 in Appraisement Record, entry 126.

Title varies: Widow's Selection Record.

Record of widows' relinquishments and selections, showing names of deceased, and widow, list and value of items relinquished, list and value of items returned, and dates of selection and relinquishment. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of widow. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Petitions, Decrees, Reports of Sale
(See also entries 116, 117)

128. AFFIDAVIT OF NOTICE TO CREDITORS, 1869--. 1 v. Discontinued.

Copies of notices to creditors to present claims against estates, showing list of articles for publication in newspapers, and record of public posting of notices signed by county clerk. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 574 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

129. RECORD OF DECREES, 1866-67. 1 v. 1868-- in Real Estate Sale Record, entry 130.

Record of decree in probate court to sell real estate to pay taxes, showing names of deceased and administrator, date and term of court, amount of deficiency, legal description of real estate, date of decree, and name of judge. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. on pr. fm. Binding poor. 424 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

130. REAL ESTATE SALE RECORD, 1851--. 7 v. (A-G). Title varies:
Petition to Sell Real Estate.

Record of petitions and decrees to sell real estate, together with administrator's bond for sale of real estate, showing names of estate, administrator, petitioner, witnesses, and sureties, date of court term, decree, and order, and date and amount of bond. Also contains Record of Decrees, 1868--, entry 129. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. 1851-1917, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1918--, typed. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

131. SALE RECORD PERSONAL PROPERTY, 1859--. 8 v. (A-H).
Accounts of sale of personal property, showing names of estate and administrator or executor, petition to sell, description and value of property, date and amount of sale, and to whom sold. Arr. alph. by name of estate. No index. 1859-72, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1873--, typed. 290 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

132. GUARDIANS' RECORD SALE OF REAL ESTATE, 1888--. 2 v. (C, D).
Record of proceedings to sell estate of minor children, showing date and term of court, legal description of property, guardians' petition for sale of real estate and bond, and order of court. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of minor. 1888-1927, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1928--, typed. 582 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Reports, Current and Final
Accounts (See also entries 117, 207)

133. ADMINISTRATORS' AND EXECUTORS' RECORD, 1882--. 26 v. (A-Z).
Copies of reports of executor and administrator, showing names of deceased and administrator, date and term of court, items of receipts, items paid out, recapitulation, affidavits of administrator, and date report approved. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. 1882-1920, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1921--, typed. 598 p. 18 x 12½ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

134. GUARDIANS' AND CONSERVATORS' REPORT RECORD, 1882--. 9 v. (A-I).
Copies of guardians' reports to county judge on estates of minor children, and conservators' reports on estates of insane persons, showing items of receipts and expenditures; also showing recapitulation of assets of estates. Arr. chron. No index. 1882-1921, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1922--, typed. 385 p. 18 x 13 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

135. GUARDIANS' LEDGER, 1867-71. 1 v. 1872-- in Guardians'
Record, entry 122.
Ledger of guardians' accounts with minor heirs of estate, showing names of minors, items of claims received and paid, date, and amount. Arr. alph. by names of minor heirs. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 540 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Inheritance Tax (See
also entry 207)

136. INHERITANCE TAX, 1913--. 2 v. No prior records.
Accounts of inheritance taxes, showing amount taxable for each heir, name of heir, rate of tax, gross tax, gross amount collected, kind and amount of fees deducted, total expense, net amount, and date of transaction. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of heir. Hdw. on pr. fm. 240 p. 17 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Dockets

Court Proceedings

137. JUDGE'S DOCKET, 1872--. 8 v. (4 not lettered, A-D).

1855-71 in Probate Estate Docket, entry 142.

Judge's probate docket showing date and term of court, names of attorneys, plaintiff, and defendant, document number, kind of action, and docket entries. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. Binding poor. 204 p. - 800 p. 18 x 12 x 1 - 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4. 4 v., 1872-1923, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. A-D, 1924--., co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

138. TRANSFER JUDGES' DOCKET, 1920--. 3 v. (2 not lettered, D).

Judge's transfer docket of completed probate cases, showing date and term of court, proceedings in the matter of estates, names of parties to action, kind of action, names of attorneys, and volume and page of entry. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 900 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

139. JUDGES' DOCKET GUARDIAN'S AND CONSERVATORS, 1858--. 4 v. (A, B, 1858-1927; A, B, 1924--). Title varies: Guardian's Docket.

Judge's docket of guardians' and conservators' cases, showing names of estate, guardian, and conservator, date of letters, date and amount of bond, names of sureties, names and ages of heirs, and date of filing and remarks. Also contains Judges Docket Feeble-minded, 1872-1915, 1926--., entry 107. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of ward. Hdw. on pr. fm. 540 p. - 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3 - 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

140. PROBATE JUDGMENT DOCKET, 1859--. 15 v. (A-E, E-N).

Docket of claims against estates in probate, showing number of claim, date filed, names of claimants, nature and amount of claim, summons and notice, and order of court. Also contains County Court Claims Record (Probate), 1859-86, entry 118, and Estate Claim Docket, 1859-1915, entry 143. Arr. alph. by name of person against whom judgment is entered. Hdw. on pr. fm. 320 p. 18 x 13 x 2. V. A-E, E-H, 1859-1912, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. I-N, 1913--., co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

141. PROBATE JUDGMENT DOCKET INDEX, DIRECT AND INDIRECT, 1859--.

3 v. (1 v. not lettered, C, D).

Direct and indirect index to probate judgment docket, direct index showing names of claimant and estate, docket and page number, and indirect index showing estate name, page and docket number. Arr. alph. by names of estate or claimant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 484 p. 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 x 2. 1 v. 1859-1912, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. C, D, 1913--., co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

Probate Business

142. PROBATE ESTATE DOCKET, 1855--. 8 v. (A-H).

Docket of estates in probate, showing names of deceased, administrator or executor, date of letters, amount of bond, names of sureties, widows and heirs, dates of appraiser's inventory, and sale, and record book and page number. Also contains Judge's Docket, 1855-71, entry 137. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. on pr. fm. 560 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

143. ESTATE CLAIM DOCKET, 1916--. 2 v. (6, 7). 1859-1915 in

Probate Judgment Docket, entry 140.

Docket of claims in estate cases, showing date and term of court, names of estate and claimant, and amount of claim, date claim approved, amount, where recorded, and name of judge. Arr. alph. by name of estate. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 580 p. 18 x 13 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Fee Books

144. PROBATE FEE BOOK, 1853--. 22 v. (A-V).

Lists of fees collected by probate court, showing names of deceased and administrator, clerk's cost, list of costs, amount charged, date and amount received, date reported, miscellaneous fees, dates received and paid, and total witness fees. Also contains Guardians' and Conservators' Fee Book, 1853-99, entry 145. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. on pr. fm. 582 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. V. A-F, 1853-72, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. G-V, 1873--, co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

145. GUARDIANS' AND CONSERVATORS' FEE BOOK, 1900--. 5 v. (A-E).

1853-99 in Probate Fee Book, entry 144.

Lists of fees paid to probate court, showing names of guardians, conservators, and wards, date of action, clerk's costs by items, amount fees charged and received, date reported to county clerk, and miscellaneous items and costs. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of ward. Hdw. on pr. fm. 544 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

IX. CIRCUIT COURT

The circuit court has original jurisdiction of all causes of law and equity, and appellate jurisdiction in probate matters and causes cognizable by the county court and justices of the peace.¹ In addition, it is one of the courts capable, according to Federal Statutes, of having naturalization jurisdiction.²

Originally the circuit court was held in Stephenson County by judges elected by the General Assembly.³ This plan of organization was effective for a brief period of four years, as in 1841 additional associate justices of the supreme court, who together with the other justices of the supreme court held the circuit courts, were elected by joint ballot of the General Assembly.⁴ In 1849 another change was made in the circuit court. This latter change was made in accordance with the Constitution of 1848 which provided for the election of circuit judges by the judicial district electorate.⁵ The Constitution of 1870 altered the circuit districts and established population requirements for counties that may comprise a circuit.⁶ From 1849 to the present the circuit judges have been elective officers of the judicial district electorate. The fifteenth circuit of which Stephenson County is a part is made up of five counties.⁷

In this district there are elected three circuit judges who serve for six-year terms.⁸ Before entering upon the duties of his office each circuit judge is required to subscribe to an oath which he files with the secretary of state. Those elected after the first Monday of June 1933 receive a salary of \$7,200 which is paid out of the state treasury.⁹

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1. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 12.
 2. U.S.S.1802, p. 153; U.S.R.S.1874, p. 378; U.S.S.1906, p. 596; U.S.S.1913, p. 737; U.S.S.1926, p. 709.
 3. L.1835, p. 150,151.
 4. L.1841, p. 173; R.S.1845, p. 143.
 5. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 7.
 6. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 13.
 7. L.1933, p. 435.
 8. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 12.
 9. L.1933, p. 621; L.1937, p. 189,606. In 1837, the salary of the circuit judge was \$750.00 per annum, L.1835, p. 167. The Constitution of 1870 set the salary at \$3000 until otherwise provided by law, Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 16. A few of the recent changes were: from 1919-25, for judges elected during this period, \$6500; for the period 1925-33, those elected received \$8000 per year, L.1919, p. 553,554; L.1925, p. 400; L.1931, p. 148.

The hearings of several of the election contests are held in the circuit court. Jurisdiction is granted to the court to hear and determine contests of the election of judges of the supreme court, judges of the circuit court, and members of the state board of equalization, but no judge of the circuit court is allowed to sit upon a hearing of any case in which he is a party.¹ The circuit court also hears and determines the election contests of some of the local and county offices. These include contests of judge of the county court, city mayor, president of the county board, village president, elections in reference to removal of county seats and in reference to any other subject which may be submitted to the vote of the people of the county, and concurrent jurisdiction with the county court in cases of contested elections under its jurisdiction.²

Included under the jurisdiction of the circuit court are also appeals from the Illinois Commerce Commission's rules, regulations, orders, or decisions. Such appeals may be taken to the circuit court serving Stephenson County when the subject matter of the hearing is situated in this county. The appeal may be heard for the purpose of having the reasonableness or lawfulness of the rule, regulation, order or decision inquired into and determined.³

To make possible the handling of much litigation a branch circuit court may be held at the same time that the main or regular circuit court for Stephenson County is in session. A branch court is held by any circuit judge or by any judge of any other circuit called in for the purpose of hearing and deciding motions and settling the issues in any, or all, causes pending in the circuit court, and for the purpose of hearing chancery causes and cases at law which are pending in such court for that term. The presiding judge of the main circuit court assigns to the branch court as many of the law and chancery cases for the settling of issues therein as the presiding judge of the branch court will possibly have time to hear and try.⁴

Also to aid in the speedy administration of justice, the judges, or a majority of them, may, by an order entered as of record in the office of the clerk of the circuit court, dispense with either or both the grand and petit jury for any term of the circuit court, and may designate what term or terms, or parts thereof, shall be devoted to criminal business, and what term or terms, or parts thereof, to civil business.⁵

1. L.1899, p. 152.

2. L.1849, p. 72; L.1871-72, p. 380; L.1895, p. 170.

3. L.1921, p. 742,743.

4. L.1873-74, p. 82,83; L.1905, p. 146.

5. L.1835, p. 168; L.1873, p. 81; L.1933, p. 441,442.

Each of the three judges of the circuit court is authorized to appoint one official shorthand reporter. This appointee is required to be skilled in verbatim reporting and is not allowed to hold more than one such official appointment. The appointment is in writing and is required to be filed in the office of the auditor of public accounts. The reporter holds office until his appointment is revoked by the appointing judge or the termination of the said judge's term. When the official reporter is absent or disabled, the presiding judge may appoint any other competent reporter to act during such absence or disability. The substitute is paid by the official reporter for his services. The reporter causes full stenographic notes of the evidence in all trials before the court to be taken down and a transcript of the same, if desired by either party to the suit, by their attorney, or by the judge of the court, to be correctly made and furnished to the party desiring it. Each of the reporters receives and is paid out of the state treasury an annual salary of \$3,600.¹

The probation officer for adult probationers is an appointee of the circuit court.² His services extend throughout the county. Courts exercising criminal or quasi-criminal jurisdiction are given power to deal with adult or juvenile offenders of specified offences under the provisions of this act of creation. In the performance of his prescribed duties, the probation officer principally serves the county and circuit courts. He is required to give bond as determined by the circuit court in a sum not exceeding \$5,000, and is subject to the rules and removal of the said appointing court. Stephenson County has one probation officer under the allowance of one for each 50,000 of population, or fraction thereof.

The probation officer is compensated at a rate determined by the county board of supervisors. In the performance of his duties he is required to investigate the case of defendants requesting probation, notify the court of previous conviction or probation, make reports to the respective courts, keep a set of records as described below, and take charge of and watch over all persons placed on probation, as well as cases of probationers moving from another county into his county.³

The reports made by the probation officer to the courts are kept by the respective court clerks. The courts' probation records include orders granting or refusing release on probation, probationers' bonds, the reports of probation officers noted above, and discharge of probationers.

1. L.1887, p. 159,160; L.1927, p. 395.

2. L.1911, p. 280,281.

3. L.1911, p. 281,282; L.1915, p. 381,382.

The probation officer is required to keep complete and accurate records of investigated cases, including description of the investigated persons, the action of the court, and the subsequent history of probationers. These are private records, open to inspection only by any judge or by any probation officer pursuant to a court order, and are not public records.¹

For county court probation records, see entry 113; for circuit court probation records, see entry 174.

The records of the circuit court are kept by the clerk of the circuit court.

X. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Unlike the judges of the circuit court, who are elected by the judicial district electorate, the clerk of this court is elected by the county electorate.² This official performs the ministerial duties of the circuit court of Stephenson County and files and preserves its records as well as those of the branch circuit courts.³ He is commissioned by the Governor, and before entering upon the duties of his office gives bond, with sureties who are approved by any two of the judges of the court. His bond is given in the sum of not less than \$5,000 and agreed upon by the judges. The oath to which he subscribes is filed with the secretary of state.⁴ If a vacancy occurs in this office, and the unexpired term does not exceed one year, the court is required to fill such vacancy by appointment of a clerk pro tempore. The appointee is then required to qualify for office in the same manner as the clerk of the circuit court. When the appointment is made, the court notifies the Governor of the filled vacancy. The Governor in turn, as soon as practicable, issues a writ of election for circuit clerk.⁵

The clerk of the circuit court was first appointed by the circuit court in Stephenson County.⁶ He kept a record of all the oaths that he administered and certified a copy annually to the secretary of state.⁷ The clerk preserved a complete record of all proceedings and determinations of the court

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1. L.1911, p. 277-84; L.1915, p. 378-84.
 2. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 7; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec.
 3. L.1905, p. 147.
 4. R.S.1845, p. 146,147; L.1849, p. 63; R.S.1874, p. 260.
 5. L.1873-74, p. 95.
 6. Constitution of 1818, Art. IV, sec. 6; R.L.1833, p. 152; R.S.1845, p. 146,147.
 7. L.1819, p. 349.

of which he was clerk.¹ At each term of the circuit court, the clerk inquired into the condition of the treatment of prisoners and was required to see that all prisoners were humanely treated.² This authority was in later years, and is at present, delegated to the circuit court.³ One of the early requisites of this office was for the clerk of the circuit court to reside near the county seat in order that he could attend to his duties daily. In the event that it were not possible for him to be in daily attendance, the presiding judge and the county commissioners' court were to fill such vacancy. The Constitution of 1848 made the clerk of the circuit court an elective officer of the county electorate with a four-year term. This arrangement continues until the present.⁴

The clerk is able to perform the several duties of his office with the aid of his staff which consists of assistants and deputy clerks who are appointed by him in such number as determined by rule of the circuit court.⁵ This order is entered as of record and the compensation of such assistants and deputies is set by the county board of supervisors.⁶

Among the records kept by the clerk for the circuit court are the following:⁷

1. Books of record of the proceedings and judgments of the court, with alphabetical indexes by parties. Proceedings are recorded at length only in cases designated by law, or when the court, at the motion and assumption of expense by one of the parties, so orders. In practice, the court record has been broken down from an early date into segregated types of proceedings and judgments.
2. "Plaintiff-Defendant Index to Court Record" and "Defendant-Plaintiff Index to Court Records." Intended to be separate records, but frequently combined in a single volume with the two indexes segregated in each volume.
3. A general docket, in which all suits are entered in the order which they are commenced.

1. R.L.1833, p. 152; R.S.1845, p. 147.

2. R.L.1827, p. 248.

3. R.S.1874, p. 616; L.1923, p. 423.

4. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 29; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.

5. L.1831, p. 49; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.

6. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.

7. The Civil Practice Act of 1933 grants authority to the circuit courts, subject to rules promulgated by the supreme court and not inconsistent with statutory requirements, to make such rules as they may deem expedient, regulating dockets and calendars of said court. L.1933, p. 785, sec. 2.

4. A judgment and execution docket, containing a column for entry of satisfaction or other disposition. In practice, an execution docket is frequently set up independently.
5. Additional dockets, designated as the clerk's, judge's and bar docket. In practice, the bar docket has tended to drop out of use.
6. A fee book, in which costs and fees are to be entered under the proper title of the case. In practice, separate series of volumes are maintained under such titles of causes.
7. Transcripts of proceedings in appeals from justices', city and foreign courts, dockets thereof, and transcripts of judgment for liens, etc., from the former. Separate well-bound books are required to be kept for each city court which are to contain an alphabetical docket of all judgment decrees rendered in the city court. The books also provide entries of data relating to the filing of the transcript with the corresponding number of the transcript.¹
8. Naturalization proceedings, from petitions to final certificates; Federal Statutes allowing the circuit court, as well as the Federal courts, power to exercise jurisdiction.
9. Reports to the court from its designated masters in chancery, the state's attorney, and the coroner's inquest juries.
10. Jury venires, summons, certificates, etc.
11. Original documents used in court hearings and determinations. These documents are of particular importance because in a large number of cases the complete proceedings are not spread on court record.
12. Monthly reports of the warden of the county jail, containing a list of all prisoners in his custody, showing causes of commitment and persons by whom committed.²

Proceedings of Court

146. MINUTES RECORDS COURT SESSIONS, 1857--. 29 v. Missing: 1918-26.
Title varies: Clerk's Minutes.

Circuit Court minutes showing date of court term, judicial notations on court cases, record of general business, and remarks. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 350 p. 14 x 9 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. 10 v., 1857-1917, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 19 v., 1927--, cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

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1. R.S.1874, p. 347; L.1901, p. 136.
 2. R.L.1827, p. 217; R.S.1845, p. 57,323-26,414,418,419,518; L.1865, p. 79,80; L.1871-72, p. 325; R.S.1874, p. 262,263,285-87,339,616; L.1877, p. 77; L.1895, p. 206,210,211,217; L.1933, p. 378-80,677; U.S.S.1802, p. 153-55; U.S.R.S.1874, p. 378-80; U.S.S.1906, p. 597-607; U.S.S.1906, p. 709,710; U.S.S.1929, p. 154,155.

147. COURT RECORD COMMON LAW, 1935--. 1 v. (56).

1891-1934 in Court Record, entry 150.

Record of proceedings in common law cases, showing term of court and date, names of plaintiff, defendant, and jury members, docket number, type of case, kind of action, and names of county officials, judge, and attorneys. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

148. CHANCERY RECORD, 1935--. 2 v. (1, 2).

1839-1934 in Court Record, entry 150.

Record of chancery proceedings in circuit court, showing date and term of court, names of plaintiff and defendant, number and type of action, decision of court, and reports of master in chancery. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Typed. 640 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

149. CRIMINAL RECORD, 1877--. 5 v. (A, C-F).

1839-76 in Court Record, entry 150.

Proceedings in criminal cases heard in circuit court, showing term of court and date, names of plaintiff, defendant, jurors, county officials, judges, and attorneys, docket number, type of case, and action. Also contains (State's Attorneys' Reports to Circuit Court), 1926--, entry 169. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 636 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

150. COURT RECORD, 1839-1934, 57 v. (A-Z, 27-55, 57, 58).

Record of circuit court proceedings in chancery and common law cases, and criminal cases to 1877, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, number and type of action, decision of court, date and term of court, names of jurors summoned and released, and report by grand jury on jail visits; includes divorce records, judgment by default records, and judgment by confession records. Also contains Alimony and Support Record, 1839-1927, entry 182. Subsequent to 1876 Criminal Record kept separately, entry 149; subsequent to 1934 Court Record Common Law and Chancery Record also kept separately, entries 147, 148. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. 1839-90, hdw.; 1891-1934, hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

151. CIRCUIT CLERK'S MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS, 1837--. 888 f.b.,

3385 bdl. (f.b., 1837--; bdl., 1840--).

Miscellaneous circuit court documents including common law, criminal, and chancery case papers, jury venires, masters' reports, bonds, witness affidavits, state's attorneys' reports, and masters' certificates of levy. Arr. chron. No index. Paper poor, writing faded. F.b. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13; bdl. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. 312 f.b., 1837-1926, 3385 bdl., 1840--, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 366 f.b., 1861--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.; 192 f.b., 1930--, cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.; 18 f.b., 1936--, cir. ct. rm., 2nd fl.

152. MISCELLANEOUS RECORD (Circuit Court Proceedings), 1879--.
17 v. (A-Q).

Record of proceedings in circuit court, not recorded elsewhere in court records, including affidavits of witnesses, inventories and bills of sale of real and personal property, copies of original certificates of incorporation and wills, township treasurers' bond records, and power of attorney. Also contains Dedication of Right of Way, 1879-1920, entry 86. Volume O, pages 372, 373, contains recording of last will of Jame Addams of Hull House, Chicago. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of principal parties. 1879-1935, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1936--, typed. 542 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 x 3. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

153. COUNTY RECORD (Damage Proceedings), 1846-54. 4 v. Discontinued. Record of proceedings in circuit court for recovery of damages, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, dates of judgment and execution, items of costs, disposition of executions, and date returned. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. Binding and paper poor, writing faded. 180 p. 13 x 8 x 1. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

For subsequent similar records, see entries 163, 164.

154. (BANK RECEIVERSHIP RECORDS), 1933--. 9 f.b. No prior records. Petitions for receiverships of closed banks, with date and term of court, names of state auditor and bank as plaintiff and defendant, number of action, and name of receiver appointed; also includes complete financial statements of assets and liabilities. Arr. by instrument no. No index. 6 x 14 x 22. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

Transcripts

155. TRANSCRIPT RECORD, 1846--. 6 v. (A-F).

Transcripts of justice of peace proceedings, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorney, date of court term, kind of action, dates of service and summons, date returnable, costs itemized, and date of filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. 1846-76, hdw.; 1877--, hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. V. A-C, 1846-76, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. D-F, 1877--, cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

156. JUDGMENTS ON COGNOVITS COURT RECORD, 1936--. 1 v. (3).

1851-89 in Judgment Docket, entry 163; 1890-1935 in Judgment and Execution Docket, entry 164.

Court record of immediate judgments on notes only, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorney, amount of suit, dates of term, and execution. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Dockets

157. CIRCUIT COURT DOCKET, 1858-79. 55 v. 1880-- in
Office Docket (Judge's), entry 160.

Docket of proceedings in common law, criminal, and chancery in circuit court, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, judges and attorneys, number and type of action, date and term of court, and order of court. Arr. by docket number. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. 430 p. 13 x 8 x 1½. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

158. COURT DOCKET, 1858-79. 55 v. Discontinued.

Docket of circuit court criminal, common law, and chancery cases, showing docket number, names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorney, type of action, date of return of process, date and term of court, and court orders. This record is a duplicate of Circuit Court Docket, entry 157. Arr. by docket no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 275 p. 14 x 9 x 1. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

159. COURT DOCKET TRANSFER (Judge's), 1907--. 10 v. (1-10).

Transfer docket of completed circuit court cases, showing names of attorney, plaintiff, and defendant, general number, term number, amount of bail, offence, and court orders. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. V. 4-6, devoid of binding. 900 p. 14½ x 13 x 4. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

For prior docket entries, see entry 160.

160. OFFICE DOCKET (Judge's), 1857--. 8 v. (A-H).

Judge's docket of all cases filed in circuit court, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, case number, dates of indictment and warrant, type of case, kind of action, date of filing, and amount of fee. Also contains Circuit Court Docket, 1880--, entry 157, and Docket of Liens, 1857-86, entry 161. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. Writing faded, paper poor. 480 p. 18 x 12½ x 3. V. A-C, 1857-95, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. D-H, 1896--, cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

161. DOCKET OF LIENS, 1887--. 2 v. (1, 2).

1857-86 in Office Docket, entry 160.

Docket of mechanics' liens, showing date lien filed against property for labor and materials used on premises, by whom filed, name of property owner, legal description of property, date and acknowledgment, and satisfaction of lien. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of property owner. Hdw. on pr. fm. 140 p. 16 x 11 x 2. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

162. BAR DOCKET, 1858-94. 75 v. Discontinued.

Bar docket showing number of action, names of attorneys, plaintiff, and defendant, type of action, date and term of court, and orders of court. Arr. by no. of action. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 275 p. 14 x 9 x 1. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

163. JUDGMENT DOCKET, 1851-89. 5 v. (D, E, I, K, 1 not lettered).

1890— in Judgment and Execution Docket, entry 164.

Docket of judgments, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, number of action, date and amount of judgment, items of costs, dates of issue and return of execution, to whom delivered, and satisfaction. Also contains Judgments On Cognovits Court Record, 1851-89, entry 156. Arr. alph. by name of person against whom judgment is entered. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 618 p. 18 x 12½ x 3. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

164. JUDGMENT AND EXECUTION DOCKET, 1852—. 17 v. (1 not lettered, F-U).

Docket of judgments and executions, showing instrument number, names of parties, nature of judgment, against whom rendered, damages and cost, dates execution issued and returned, date of judgment, sheriff's return, and disposition. Up to 1890 record carried as an execution docket only. Also contains Judgments On Cognovits Court Record, 1890-1935, entry 156; Judgment Docket, 1890—, entry 163; and Sheriff's Execution Docket (Execution and Process Docket), 1881—, entry 184. Arr. alph. by name of person against whom judgment is entered. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 318 p. 18 x 12½ x 3. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

Fee Books

165. REGISTER OF COURT FEES, 1876—. 8 v. (2 not lettered, D-H, 1876—; 1 not lettered, 1881-85). Title varies: Register of Fees and Expenditures.

Register of court fees, showing document number, date, amounts earned and received, semianual analysis made of each type of fee collected, and statement of total amounts received. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 1881-85, binding poor. 640 p. - 300 p. 18 x 14 x 3 - 17½ x 14½ x 1. 3 v. not lettered, v. D, E, 1876-1917, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. F-H, 1918—, cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

166. FEE BOOKS, CHANCERY, COMMON LAW, AND CRIMINAL, 1841—. 24 v. (C, D, F, G, I, J-L, N, P, T, U, W, 1841-73; 4 not labeled, 1-7, 1865—).

Lists of circuit court fees, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date of court term, number and type of action, kind and amount of fees, date, and by whom paid. Also contains Fee Book Defaults, 1876—, entry 167, and Fee Book, Confessions, 1884—, entry 168. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. 1841-74, hdw.; 1875—, hdw. on pr. fm. 580 p. 18 x 13 x 3. V. C, D, F, G, I, J-L, N, P, T, U, W, 3 not labeled, 1841-89, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 1 not labeled, v. 1-7, 1890—, cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

167. FEE BOOK DEFAULTS, 1857-75. 2 v. (2, 0). 1876— in Fee Books, Chancery, Common Law, and Criminal, entry 166.

Register of fees in cases of defaults on judgments, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date and term of court, names of attorneys, items of court, clerk's and sheriff's fees, date of filing, and date of sheriff's return of writ. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 496 p. 16 x 11 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.



Clerk of the Circuit Court -
Reports; Jury Records; Bonds

(168-172)

168. FEE BOOK, CONFESSIONS, 1857-83. 1 v. 1884-- in Fee Books,
Chancery, Common Law, and Criminal, entry 166.

Register of fees for confessed judgments, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date and term of court, items of court costs, order of execution, with date, to whom delivered, and satisfaction of judgment. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 504 p. 16 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Reports to the Court

(For other state's attorneys' reports, see entry 151)

169. (STATE'S ATTORNEYS' REPORTS TO CIRCUIT COURT), 1876-1925. 1 v.
1926-- in Criminal Record, entry 149.

Reports of state's attorneys to circuit court, showing date and term of court, names of state's attorney, judge, and defendant, type of crime, date convicted, items of fees, fines, and forfeitures, and date received by county treasurer. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. Binding poor. 288 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

Jury Records

(See also entries 6, 21, 151, 209)

170. JURORS RECORD, 1929--. 1 v.

Register of grand and petit jurors, showing number of certificate, name and address of juror, day of term served, total number days served, mileage, amount of fees, and signature of juror on receipt of certificate. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 260 p. 17 x 14 x 1. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

171. JURORS CERTIFICATES, 1848--. 7 v.

Copies of jurors' certificates, showing number of certificate, names of grand and petit jurors, date certificate issued, number of days of service, amount of mileage, items and amount of fees, and signature of juror. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 263 p. - 57 p. 14 x 14 x 1 - 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$. 6 v., 1848-1931, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 1 v., 1932--, cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

Bonds

172. RECOGNIZANCE RECORD, 1871--. 2 v.

Copies of recognizance bonds showing date and term of court, names of defendant, and sureties, crime for which indicted, amount and date of bond, and date set for appearance of defendant. Also contains Bail Bond Record, 1871-1916, 1918--, entry 173. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.



173. BAIL BOND RECORD, 1917. 1 v. 1871-1916, 1918-- in Recognizance Record, entry 172.

Copies of bail bonds, showing name of defendant, nature of crime, date and amount of bond, names of sureties, date fixed for appearance before circuit court, schedule filed by sureties, with value and legal description of property, date, and by whom approved. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 157 p. 18 x 13 x 2. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

Probation and Parole

174. PROBATION COURT RECORD, 1912--. 3 v. (1, 1, 2).

Probation records, showing date and term of court, names of plaintiff, defendant, and county officials present, crime for which convicted, number of action, amount of bond, and names of sureties and probation officer. Also contains Parole Record, 1926--, entry 175. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 143 p. 18 x 13 x 1. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

175. PAROLE RECORD, 1897-1925. 1 v. 1926-- in Probation Court Record, entry 174.

Lists of prisoners paroled, showing certificate of discharge under parole law, name of defendant, dates of conviction and sentence, nature of crime, and dates of parole and final discharge. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 320 p. 18 x 13 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Naturalization (See also entries 67, 115)

176. INDEX TO CITIZENSHIP, 1924-26. 1 v. Discontinued.

Citizenship record index to certificates of naturalization, showing date of filing declaration of intention, number of petition, dates of hearing, order, and issue, number of certificate, and record volume and page. Arr. alph. by name of petitioner. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 251 p. 18 x 13 x 2½. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

177. CERTIFICATES OF NATURALIZATION, 1857-1930. 15 v. (B, C, 1864-1906; 13 not lettered, 1857-1930). 1843-56 in Miscellaneous Naturalization Records, entry 178. Subsequent records found in United States District Court, Freeport, Illinois.

Original certificates of naturalization, showing date and term of court, name of petitioner to certificate, certificate number, date of certificate, place of residence of wife and minor children, oath of allegiance, witness affidavits, and date recorded. Arr. by certificate no. 1857-1906, indexed alph. by name of petitioner; 1907-23, 1927-30, no index; for index 1924-26, see entry 176. Hdw. on pr. fm. 475 p. - 100 p. 18 x 12 x 2 - 10 x 5 x 1. V. B, 1864-1900, cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.; v. C, 13 not lettered, 1857-1930, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.



Clerk of the Circuit Court -
Office Transactions

(178-182)

178. MISCELLANEOUS NATURALIZATION RECORDS, 1843-56. 11 v. Certificates of declaration of intention, petitions, and final certificates of citizenship, showing name, age, place of birth and native country, oath of allegiance, date and term of court, affidavits of witnesses, and date filed. Also contains Certificates of Naturalization; Record of Declaration of Intention; and Petitions for Naturalization, 1843-56, entries 177, 179, 180. Arr. by declaration no. Indexed alph. by name of petitioner. Hdw. on pr. fm. 400 p. 9 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.
179. RECORD OF DECLARATION OF INTENTION, 1857-1930. 14 v. (9 not numbered, 1857-1930; 2-6, 1911-24). 1843-56 in Miscellaneous Naturalization Records, entry 178; subsequent records kept in United States District Court, Freeport, Illinois. Original declaration of intention certificates, showing name of petitioner, physical description, country emigrated from, point of landing, oath of allegiance, affidavits of witnesses, and date filed with circuit clerk. Also contains Petitions for Naturalization, 1857-77, entry 180. Arr. by declaration no. Indexed alph. by name of petitioner. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 p. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 18 x 1. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.
180. PETITIONS FOR NATURALIZATION, 1878-1930. 2 v. (1 not numbered, 5). 1843-56 in Miscellaneous Naturalization Records, entry 178; 1857-77 in Record of Declaration of Intention, entry 179. Subsequent records kept in United States District Court, Freeport, Illinois. Original petitions for naturalization, showing names of petitioner, affidavits of witnesses, declaration of intentions, oath of allegiance, order of court, date and term of court, and order of continuance. Arr. by petition no. Indexed alph. by name of petitioner. Hdw. on pr. fm. Binding poor. 100 p. - 51 p. 18 x 13 x 2 - 18 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

Office Transactions

Receipts and Expenditures

181. LEDGER CASH BOOK, 1861--. 8 v. Ledger of receipts and expenditures showing date and items of receipts, by whom paid, and total amount; also showing date and item of expenditures, to whom paid, and total amount. Arr. alph. by names of debtor and creditor. No index. Hdw. 1861-1917, binding and paper poor, writing faded. 400 p. 13 x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. 5 v., 1861-1917, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 3 v., 1918--., cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.
182. ALIMONY AND SUPPORT RECORD, 1928--. 1 v. 1839-1927 in Court Record, entry 150. Account book of sums for alimony and support, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, action number, judgment and order of court, alimony or support fixed by court, dates paid, amount and by whom paid, dates, and by whom received. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 317 p. 16 x 11 x 2. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.



Court Business

183. CERTIFICATES OF EVIDENCE, 1928--. 25 bdl.

Certificates of evidence and exhibits of proceedings in circuit court cases, with names of plaintiff and defendant, witnesses, and attorneys, date, and term of court. Arr. chron. No index. 12 x 9½ x 1½. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

XI. SHERIFF

The sheriff, by constitutional provision, has been an elected officer of the Stephenson County electorate from the creation of this county to the present.¹ The term of his office was originally set at two years, but is now four years. His bond in this county is required in the sum of \$10,000 and must be approved by the county judge.² Memoranda of this bond are entered at large upon the records of the county court and the bond is filed in the office of the county clerk.³ One or more deputy sheriffs are appointed by the sheriff in accordance with the number allowed by rule of the circuit court. The compensation of the deputies is determined by the county board of supervisors.⁴ The sheriff is also warden of the county jail and is charged with custody and regulation of the same and of all prisoners.⁵ To assist him in this administration, the sheriff appoints a superintendent of the county jail and removes him at will for neglect of duty or other causes.⁶

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1. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; Constitution of 1847, Art. VII, sec. 7; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; second amendment November 22, 1880, to the Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; also L.1819, p. 110; R.S.1874, p. 989.
 2. R.S.1874, p. 990. Compare R.L.1827, p. 373. Prior to the organization of the county court, the sheriff's bond and securities were approved by the circuit court.
 3. R.S.1845, p. 514; R.S.1874, p. 989.
 4. R.L.1827, p. 373; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.
 5. L.1819, p. 111,112,160-62,314-17,332,333; L.1821, p. 37,63,64; R.L.1827, p. 247-311,344,372,373; R.L.1829, p. 121; L.1831, p. 103,104,106; R.L.1833, p. 574,575; L.1839, p. 10,12-14; L.1845, p. 10,19; R.S.1845, p. 133,134,515-17; R.S.1874, p. 616,989-91; L.1877, p. 69,79; L.1881, p. 64,72; L.1901, p. 136; L.1905, p. 146; L.1923, p. 423; L.1936, p. 458.
 6. Ibid.

Essentially, without change for over one hundred years, the principal duties of the sheriff are:

1. Acting as conservator of the peace, with power to arrest offenders on view.
2. Attending, in person or by deputy, all courts of record (city, county, probate, circuit, and appellate courts) in his county, and obeying the orders and direction of the said courts.
3. Serving, executing, and returning all writs, warrants, processos, orders, and decrees legally directed to him.
4. Selling real or personal property by virtue of execution or other process.
5. Having the custody and care of the courthouse and jail of the county.¹
6. Sending finger-prints of criminals to the state bureau of criminal identification and investigation.²

In the course of the sheriff's multiple detailed duties included in these broad provisions, the following records may be kept but do not appear in Stephenson County:

1. Data of identification, criminal and stolen property.
2. Receipts of delivery of prisoner in changes of venue.
3. Copies₃ of reports to the county court and circuit court.
4. Reports of pawnbrokers on loans and articles pawned.⁴

The following records may be kept and do appear:

1. Register of prisoners.
2. Docket of executions.
3. "Books of Accounts", including records of fees and disbursements.

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1. L.1819, p. 111,112,160-62,314-17,332,333; L.1821, p. 37,63,64; R.L.1827, p. 247-311,344,372,373; R.L.1829, p. 121; L.1831, p. 103, 104,106; R.L.1833, p. 574,575; L.1839, p. 10,12-14; L.1845, p. 10, 19; R.S.1845, p. 133,134,515-17; R.S.1874, p. 616,989-91; L.1877, p. 69,79; L.1881, p. 64,72; L.1901, p. 136; L.1905, p. 146; L.1923, p. 423; L.1933, p. 458. The citations include also references to duties not included in the general outline noted above.
 2. L.1931, p. 464.
 3. L.1819, p. 201,317; L.1821, p. 182; R.L.1827, p. 249,273; L.1845, p. 11; R.S.1845, p. 305; R.S.1874, p. 568,991,992,1096; L.1907, p. 316-19; L.1909, p. 301; L.1921, p. 500; L.1923, p. 424; L.1929, p. 549; L.1931, p. 465; L.1933, p. 187-90.
 4. L.1909, p. 300.

Sheriff - Process; Jail Records;
Receipts and Expenditures

(184-187)

Process
(See also entries 81, 82)

184. SHERIFF'S EXECUTION DOCKET (Execution and Process Docket), 1872-80. 1 v. (E). 1881-- in Judgment and Execution Docket, entry 164; 1881-1934 in Judgment Docket, entry 104; 1935-- in Judgment and Execution Docket, entry 103.

Sheriff's execution and process docket showing amount of judgment, names of plaintiff and defendant, date of writs of execution, date of return, amount of plaintiff's and defendant's costs, and sheriff's fees and returns. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 202 p. 14 x 9 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

185. (SHERIFF'S MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS), 1935--. 84 f.b. No prior records in sheriff's office.

Writs of replevin, state and bench warrants, executions, schedules of stolen property, writs of habeas corpus, recognizance bonds, and jailer's commitments, and release cards as reported from justices' and circuit courts. Arr. by no. of action. No index. 4 x 5 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

Jail Records

186. JAIL REGISTER, 1910--. 1 v. Prior records cannot be located. Jail register showing number of prisoners, name, color, sex, occupation, education, birthplace, health, habits, physical description, property, date of committal, offense, sentence, and dates of sentence and discharge. Arr. by no. of prisoner. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 240 p. 16 x 17 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

Receipts and Expenditures

187. SHERIFF'S RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES, 1918--. 2 v. (3, 4).
Prior records cannot be located.

Accounts of cash received by sheriff, showing date, case and process docket numbers, county court, circuit court, and foreign summonses, and total amount received; also showing disposal of cash, and record of expenditures, with costs in itemized form, and date and amount. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 240 p. 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

XII. CORONER

The coroner's office in Stephenson County has continued in existence from the formation of the county to the present.¹ The coroner is elected by the county electorate for a four-year term. He received his commission from the Governor, upon the certification of the county clerk of his election, and the filing of his bond and taking the oath of office.² The inquest duties of this official have changed little from a time antecedent to the creation of this county. The coroner acts as a conservator of the peace, with powers equal to the sheriff's in that respect, and serves as a ministerial officer of the courts in the absence or disqualification of the sheriff, and performs all the other duties of the latter when the office is vacant.³

The most important function of the coroner is to hold inquests over the bodies of persons supposed to have come to their death by violence, casualty or any other undue means. Upon notification of such death, the coroner goes to the place where the body is and takes charge of the same and summons a jury of six men of the neighborhood in which the body was found. The jury is instructed to assemble at the place where the body will be at a stated time, and upon view of the body to inquire into the cause and manner of the death. If the inquest is continued and a vacancy occurs on the jury, the coroner is allowed to fill such vacancy.⁴

To the custody of the clerk of the circuit court are returned the verdict of the jury, and such recognizances as may be given the coroner by witnesses whose testimony implicates any person as the unlawful slayer of the deceased.⁵ In his own office, the coroner files and preserves the record of of such testimony.⁶ The coroner also keeps one record which he originates, the

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1. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
 2. The office is constitutional and elective (Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8) and the term, formerly two years, is now four years (second amendment, November 22, 1880, to Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8).
 3. L.1819, p. 111,160; L.1821, p. 20-23; L.1825, p. 63-64; R.L.1827, p. 246-50,372,373,375; R.S.1845, p. 515-17; R.S.1874, p. 281,282.
 4. L.1821, p. 22-24; R.S.1845, p. 517,518; R.S.1874, p. 282-84; L.1879, p. 82; L.1907, p. 213; L.1919, p. 403; L.1931, p. 338.
 5. L.1821, p. 24,25; R.S.1845, p. 518; R.S.1874, p. 284,285.
 6. L.1821, p. 25; R.S.1845, p. 518; L.1869, p. 109; R.S.1874, p. 285; L.1907, p. 213; L.1919, p. 293.

"inquest record." This record recapitulates all the data involved in the entire inquest procedure and includes an inventory and accounting of the personal property and money of the deceased.¹

Deputy coroners appointed by this official enable him to perform the duties of his office. The number of deputies is set by rule of the circuit court and their compensation is determined by the county board of supervisors. The bond or securities of these assistants is taken by the coroner and the oath to which they each subscribe is filed in the county clerk's office.²

188. CORONER'S RECORD, 1905--. 2 v.

Inquest record of county coroner, showing date and place of inquest, names of coroner, and deceased, jury and undertaker, description of deceased, inventory and disposition of personal effects, names, addresses, and occupations of witnesses, and verdict of jury. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 240 p. 18 x 12 x 2½. Cor.'s off., 233-25 Union Loan Building, Freeport, Ill.

189. (COUNTY CORONER'S MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS), 1905--. 38 bdl.

Original instruments in coroner's inquests, subpoenas for and affidavits of witnesses, and transcripts of evidence, with dates and places of inquest, names of deceased, county coroner, and juries, and verdict of jury. No arr. No index. 1905-30 paper poor. 9½ x 4 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

XIII. STATE'S ATTORNEY

The state's attorney for Stephenson County was originally elected by the General Assembly and performed his duties in the several courts of the circuit district. He was titled circuit attorney until 1849; although both titles of circuit and state's attorney were used interchangeably to designate this official.³ In 1849 the state's attorney became an elective officer of the circuit district electorate.⁴ At this time, an addition was made to the judiciary and his services were in consequence extended to the newly-created county court of Stephenson County and of the other counties included in the circuit district.⁵ Finally, in accordance with the Constitution of 1870,

1. L.1821, p. 26; L.1850, p. 104; R.S.1874, p. 285, 286.

2. L.1881, p. 63.

3. L.1819, p. 178, 204; L.1825, p. 178, 179; R.L.1827, p. 79; R.L.1833, p. 98; L.1835, p. 44; R.S.1845, p. 76.

4. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 21, 28.

5. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 18; L.1849, p. 62.

the state's attorney, for Stephenson County, is elected by the county electorate.¹ From the creation of the office in this state until the present this official has continued to receive his commission from the Governor for the tenure of his office.² The state's attorney elected by the General Assembly, served for a two-year term; then, in 1849, he was elected by the district electorate to serve until 1852, after which time the election has been for a four-year term.³ In Stephenson County, the state's attorney receives an annual salary of \$5,500, with \$400 of this amount being paid by the state.⁴ Statutory fee rates are allowed him for convictions on specified offenses and crimes before justices of the peace, police magistrates, county and circuit courts. Also rates are established for preliminary examination of defendants, for attendance at trials, and for appeals. These several fees and rates make up a county fund from which is paid his salary.⁵

The duties of the state's attorney are:

1. To commence and prosecute all actions, suits, indictments and prosecutions, civil or criminal, in any court of record in his county in which the people of the state or county may be concerned.
2. To prosecute all forfeited bonds and recognizances and all actions and proceedings for the recovery of debts, revenues, moneys, fines, penalties, and forfeitures accruing to the state or his county, or to any school district in his county; also to prosecute all suits in his county against railroads or transportation companies, which may be prosecuted in the name of the people of the State of Illinois.
3. To commence and prosecute all actions and proceedings brought up by any county officer in his official capacity.
4. To defend all actions and proceedings brought against his county, or against any county or state officer in his official capacity, in his county.
5. To attend the examination of all persons brought before any judge on habeas corpus, when the prosecution is in his county.
6. To attend before justices of the peace and prosecute charges of felony or misdemeanor for which the offender is required to be recognized and to appear before a court of record when in his power to do so.

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1. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 22; L.1871-72, p. 169; R.S.1874, p. 172.
 2. L.1819, p. 204; R.L.1833, p. 98; L.1835, p. 44; Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 21, 28; Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 22; L.1871-72, p. 169; R.S.1874, p. 172.
 3. L.1835, p. 44; Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 21; Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 22.
 4. L.1871-72, p. 420; L.1873-74, p. 105; L.1909, p. 231; L.1911-12, p. 88; L.1927, p. 526; L.1929, p. 474; L.1933, p. 620; L.1927, p. 188, 606.
 5. L.1871-72, p. 420; L.1873-74, p. 105; L.1909, p. 231.

7. To give his opinion without fee or reward, to any county officer or justice of the peace in his county upon any question of law relating to any criminal or other matter in which the people of the state or county may be concerned.
8. To assist the attorney general whenever it may be necessary, and in cases of appeal or writ of error, from his county to the supreme court, to which it is the duty of the attorney general to attend, he shall, a reasonable time before the trial of such appeal or writ of error, furnish the attorney general with a brief, showing the nature of the case and the questions involved.
9. To pay all moneys received by him in trust, without delay, to the officer who by law is entitled to the custody thereof.
10. To perform such other and further duties as may from time to time be enjoined on him by law.
11. To appear in all proceedings by collectors of taxes against delinquent taxpayers for the judgment to sell real estate, and see that all the necessary preliminary steps have been legally taken to make the judgment legal and binding.¹
12. To enforce the collection of all fines, forfeitures and penalties imposed or incurred in the courts of record in his county; and report on the collection of these moneys to the circuit court.²

For state's attorneys' reports to the circuit court, see entries 149, 151, 169.

1. R.S.1845, p. 76; R.S.1874, p. 172.

2. L.1909, p. 342; L.1911-12, p. 88; L.1929, p. 474.

XIV. SUPERVISOR OF ASSESSMENTS

The county supervisor of assessments, with the aid of the township assessors in Stephenson County, is responsible for the assessment of property upon which the township, district, county, state and other taxes are levied. Principally, these officers annually revise the assessment of property and correct the same upon complaint, and quadrennially assess the real and personal property. Many statutory provisions have regulated the assessment function in Stephenson County. Early laws fixed the value of the several categories of real and personal property, leaving to the assessing officer only limited discretion.

In Stephenson County, property assessments were first made by the county assessor, an appointee of the administrative county commissioners' court, until 1844.¹ At the latter date, the county treasurer became ex-officio county assessor and performed the functions of this office for five years.² In 1849, the assessor's duties were transferred to the several township assessors upon the election of the township form of county government.³ The township assessment officers have principally effected the assessment of property in their respective townships from the adoption of this form of government until the present. Between 1849 and 1893 the elected township assessors received the assessment lists from the county clerk and reported their assessments to the said clerk. Then, for the period 1893-1898, the elected township board of assessors received the forms from, and reported their findings to, the county clerk.⁴ Finally, in 1898, the legislature created the ex-officio office of supervisor of assessments, filled by the county treasurer. From that date until the present, the township assessment officers have worked under the direction of, and reported the assessment of property to the county treasurer in this ex-officio capacity.⁵

For other taxation records, see entries 22-34, 192-200, 212.

190. TAX SCHEDULE, 1935--. 52 v.

Schedules of personal property, showing name and address of property owners, class of property, description of property by items, item number, declared value by property owner, full value as fixed by assessor, memorandum for credit listing, and oath of property owner to schedule. Arr. alph. by name of property owner. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 14 x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Treas.'s off., 1st fl.

1. L.1825, p. 173; L.1839, p. 4; L.1841, p. 34.

2. L.1843, p. 231, 237; L.1845, p. 5; R.S.1845, p. 438; L.1853, p. 46.

3. L.1853, p. 16, 18, 24; L.1855, p. 37; L.1871-72, p. 19, 20.

4. L.1893, p. 73, 74.

5. L.1898, p. 37; L.1903, p. 295, 296; L.1923, p. 492; L.1932, p. 68.



191. ASSESSORS RECORD OF DOG LICENSES, 1932--. 62 v.

Prior records have been destroyed.

Reports of dog tags and licenses received from and returned to county clerk by township assessors, showing name and address of dog owner, number of license, date issued, breed and age of dog, amount of fee, and signature of assessor. Arr. by license no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 25 p. 6 x 4 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

XV. BOARD OF REVIEW

An important aspect of the revenue procedure is the authority for the review of assessments on property. In Stephenson County, this power is exercised by the board of review. The duties of this board are essentially to assess, equalize, review or revise the assessment of property. Early legislation provided for appeals from assessments to the county administrative body.¹ The board was granted power to review and revise the assessment on real and personal property.

In 1871 the town boards were given jurisdiction to revise the assessment of towns annually. The county board in accordance with the same legislation met annually to:

1. Assess omitted property.
2. Review assessments upon complaint.
3. Hear and determine the application of any person assessed on property claimed to be exempt from taxation.
4. Ascertain whether or not the valuations in one town or district bear just relation to those in all other towns or districts in the county.²

In 1898 this authority was transferred to the newly-created board of review.³ This board was composed of the chairman of the county board who was ex-officio chairman of the board of review, the county clerk, and a citizen appointed by the judge.⁴ Since 1923 the board has consisted of the chairman of the county board as ex-officio chairman of the board of review, and two citizens appointed by the county judge. The members of the board

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1. Appeals were made to the county commissioners' court; L.1839, p. 7; L.1843, p. 239; L.1845, p. 8; R.S.1845, p. 441. From 1849 to 1898, appeals were taken to the county board of supervisors. L.1849, p. 207, 208; L.1871, p. 22.
 2. L.1871, p. 23.
 3. L.1898, p. 54; L.1923, p. 496; L.1932, p. 75.
 4. L.1898, p. 54.

select their own clerk.¹ The two citizen members of the board are appointed alternately for a two-year term. The board may reduce or increase the entire assessment of property.

For other taxation records, see entries 22-34, 190, 191, 193-200, 212.

192. COMPLAINT DOCKET BOARD OF REVIEW, 1899. 1 v. 1900 in

Supervisors' Record, entry 2.

Docket of complaints against assessments, showing damages to property, number of complaint, name of complainant, and date claim presented. Arr. alph. by name of complainant. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 584 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

XVI. COUNTY COLLECTOR

Tax collections, in Stephenson County, were made by the sheriff as ex-officio county collector from 1837 to 1839 and again from 1843 to 1849.² For the years 1839 to 1843, the county collector was an appointee of the county commissioners' court.³ With the acceptance of the township form of government in 1849, the county treasurer became ex-officio collector of taxes.⁴ Under this plan, town collectors, elected in each township, were required to make collection of resident property taxes and deliver their books to the county collector, who returned the said books to the county clerk. The county collector in turn was charged with the collection of the non-resident property taxes.⁵ The provision for the return of the collectors' books to the county clerk was changed in 1871. In that year the legislature provided for the county collector to make annual sworn statement to the county clerk, showing the total amount collected by him from each kind of tax, the amount received from each town collector, and the amount collected by himself.⁶

In 1917 the office of town collector was abolished in counties of the size of Stephenson, and the county collector became ex-officio town collector

1. L.1923, p. 496,497.

2. L.1819, p. 168,169,316; L.1821, p. 100; L.1822, p. 80; R.L.1827, p. 370, 374; L.1843, p. 234; R.S.1845, p. 8; L.1853, n. 99.

3. L.1839, p. 7,8.

4. L.1849, p. 204; L.1853, p. 14.

5. L.1853, p. 69,70.

6. L.1871-72, p. 56,57; L.1881, p. 181.

for each of the townships in his county. As town collector, the county collector is required to perform all the duties assigned to town collectors under existing statutory requirements.¹

The collector annually prepares a delinquent property list and files the same with the county clerk. He also advertises his intention of applying for judgment for sale of delinquent lands and lots and is required to attend in person or by deputy, all tax sales resulting therefrom. The county clerk, in person or by deputy, is also required to attend all tax sales. At such tax sales the clerk and collector note and make entry of all tax sales and forfeitures to the state.

To recapitulate, under statutory provisions, the county collector collects taxes for the state, county and other governmental agencies; settles annually with the county board of supervisors, and pays to the proper authorities the amount in his hands payable to them; and attends all tax sales in person or by deputy.²

The county treasurer is required by statute to keep his records as collector of taxes separate from his records as county treasurer.³ The records of the collector's office include duplicates of receipts issued to taxpayers; state auditor's and county clerk's certificates of the collector's settlement with them; duplicates of the collector's reports; delinquent property records; and tax sale and forfeiture records.

For other taxation records, see entries 22-34, 190-192, 212.

Collection and Settlement

193. (REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX STATEMENTS), 1936--. 12 f.b. 1900-1935 in (County Treasurer's Miscellaneous Files), entry 212. Real and personal property tax statements, showing name and address of property owner, location of property, assessed value, amount of tax, interest and installment, total amounts paid, and signature of county collector. Arr. alph. by name of property owner. No index. 13 x 12 x 18. Treas.'s off., 1st fl.

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1. L.1917, p. 792; L.1925, p. 605; L.1929, p. 774; L.1931, p. 905; L.1933, p. 1115.
 2. L.1819, p. 317; R.L.1827, p. 373; L.1839, p. 8-12; L.1840, p. 3; L.1845, p. 9,11; L.1853, p. 66,77,111; L.1871-72, p. 32; L.1873-74, p. 51; L.1911, p. 485; L.1917, p. 664; L.1919, p. 765; L.1930, Sp. Sess., p. 59; L.1931, p. 747; L.1933, p. 930; L.1935, p. 1149.
 3. L.1917, p. 664; L.1930, Sp. Sess., p. 59; R.S.1935, p. 1149.

County Collector - Delinquent
Tax, Abatement

(194-199)

194. COUNTY COLLECTOR'S ACCOUNT, 1872--. 1 v.

Ledger account of county collector, showing amount of taxes collected, amounts delinquent, amounts received from sale and redemption of forfeited property, itemized statement of taxes for county purposes, amount of commission on taxes collected, dates of collections, items of credits, and date paid to county treasurer. Also contains Town Collectors' Account, 1895--, entry 197. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 239 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Treas.'s vlt., 1st fl.

195. CASH TAX BOOK, 1919--. 3 v. 1872-1918 in County Treasurer's Account County Funds, entry 203.

Tax book showing collections of taxes by months in each township, by whom paid, purpose of payment, and total amount of taxes. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 119 p. 18 x 12 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

196. SCHOOL TAX CERTIFICATES, 1873-1931. 2 v. (A, C). Missing:

1895-1911. Discontinued; prior records cannot be located.

Copies of itemized statements of district school taxes levied and collected, showing number of township, range, and district, names of owners, and legal description of property, total amount of tax, and date. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 480 p. 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

197. TOWN COLLECTORS' ACCOUNT, 1864-94. 3 v. 1895-- in County

Collector's Account, entry 194.

Lists of town collectors' accounts, showing annual state taxes on real and personal property, amounts of commissions on taxes, amount back taxes uncollected, amount collected, errors in tax books, and removals and insolvencies. Arr. chron. No index. 1864-76, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1877-94, hdw. on pr. fm. 329 p. 16 x 11 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

198. (TAX CERTIFICATE STUBS), 1872-93. 22 v. Subsequent stub books destroyed.

Stubs of tax certificates, showing number of certificate, name of taxpayer, description of property, date paid, amount, and classification of taxes on real estate and personal property. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. Writing faded, paper poor. 100 p. 6 x 4 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Delinquent Tax, Abatement

199. DELINQUENT TAXES, 1853--. 886 v.

Lists of unpaid taxes on real estate and personal property, showing date, name of owner, description of property, spread of taxes, total amount of taxes and interest, and date and by whom paid. 1853-91, 31 volumes, grouped by townships; 1892--, 45 volumes for each of 17 townships, Buckeye, Dakota, Erin, Florence, Harlem, Jefferson, Kent, Lancaster, Loran, Oneco, Ridott, Rock Grove, Rock Run, Silver Creek, Waddams, West Point, and Winslow; and 45 volumes real estate, 45 volumes personal property, Freeport township. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. 867 v., 1853-1935, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 19 v., 1936--, treas.'s off., 1st fl.

200. DELINQUENT AND RAILROAD TAXES, 1867-70. 1 v. 1839-66, 1871-- in Transcript of Delinquent Taxes, entry 32.

County treasurer's account with township collectors, showing abatement on state tax, amount forfeited to state, rate and amount of collectors' commissions, and total amount delinquent. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 273 p. 11 x 16 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

XVII. COUNTY TREASURER

In 1837, the first year of Stephenson County's existence, the General Assembly provided for the election of a county treasurer by the county electorate.¹ This provision has persisted until the present. He is commissioned by the Governor for a four-year term,² and the penal sum of his bond and the security are determined by the county board of supervisors.³ Upon request of the treasurer, the board designates the bank in which the public funds are to be deposited.

In the performance of his duties, the county treasurer receives the county revenue, keeps custody of its funds, and disburses them in accordance with orders of the county board of supervisors or by specific authorization of law. He is required to keep books of accounts of all funds received and disbursed by him, maintain a register of county orders countersigned and paid, report annually to the county board on the financial transactions of his office, and settle his accounts with the board semi-annually.⁴ The last two requirements give rise to a number of segregated records of accounts beyond strict statutory requirements. In addition, reports are made to the treasurer by other county, district, and public and semipublic authorities in the process of transacting business with him, and, finally, a large number of records arise from the requirements for collectors of taxes to settle their accounts with the treasurer.⁵

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1. R.L.1837, p. 49,274; L.1845, p. 28; R.S.1845, p. 137; L.1851, p. 144; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
 2. The term was originally set at four years in 1838; R.L.1837, p. 274. It was then reduced to two years; L.1845, p. 28; L.1851, p. 144. The office was made constitutional without change of term; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8. Then in 1880, the term was lengthened to four years; second amendment (ratified November 22, 1880) to the Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
 3. L.1819, p. 318; R.L.1827, p. 329; R.S.1874, p. 323. The bond is required to be filed in the office of the county clerk.
 4. L.1819, p. 318; R.L.1837, p. 582,583; L.1845, p. 151; R.S.1845, p. 136,138,139; L.1861, p. 239,240; R.S.1874, p. 323,324.
 5. L.1819, p. 317; L.1821, p. 183; R.L.1827, p. 333; L.1839, p. 8-10; L.1845, p. 11; L.1885, p. 142-47; L.1895, p. 304; L.1913, p. 516; L.1933, p. 898.

Receipts and Disbursements

Registers and Ledgers

201. COUNTY TREASURER RECORD OF COUNTY CLERKS REPORT, 1920--. 1 v. (1). 1872-1919 in County Treasurer's Account County Funds, entry 203. Register of fees reported by county clerk as paid to local registrars for reporting births and deaths, showing number of birth or death certificate, name and address on certificate, date, total number of certificates, total fees, and date paid. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 16 x 11 x 1½. Treas.'s vlt., 1st fl.
For county clerk's accounts of births and deaths, see entry 64.

202. APPROPRIATION LEDGER, 1932--. 1 v. No prior records. Ledger showing amount allotted to various funds by county board, date and amount of appropriation, to what fund, date of credits, and balance on hand. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of fund. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 15 x 15 x 2. Treas.'s off., 1st fl.

Cash Books

203. COUNTY TREASURER'S ACCOUNT COUNTY FUNDS, 1872--. 2 v. Treasurer's account book of county funds, showing from whom received, date, and amount, to whom paid, date and amount, for what purpose, total receipts and expenditures, and balance on hand. Also contains Cash Tax Book, 1872-1918, entry 195; County Treasurer Record of County Clerks Report, 1872-1919, entry 201; Treasurer's Cash Book, 1887--, entry 204; Institute Fund Record, 1872-1923, entry 206; and Dog License Fund, 1872-1919, entry 208. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 240 p. 18 x 12 x 2. 1 v., 1872-1910, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 1 v., 1911--, treas.'s off., 1st fl.

204. TREASURER'S CASH BOOK, 1867-86. 3 v. 1887-- in County Treasurer's Account County Funds, entry 203. List of expenditures of county treasurer, showing items of expenditures, date paid and to whom, type of account, kind of funds, amount paid on each account, and total amount. Arr. chron. No index. 1867-68, hdw.; 1869-86, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 432 p. 16 x 11 x 1½. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

205. PAYMENTS FROM REFUNDING FUND, 1875-76. 1 v. Discontinued. Itemized list of refunds of portion of state tax of 1873, illegally assessed upon real estate and personal property, showing description of property, name of taxpayer, and amount equalized by state board. Arr. by name of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 331 p. 16½ x 11½ x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Special Accounts

School (See also entries 213-215)

206. INSTITUTE FUND RECORD, 1924--. 1 v. 1872-1923 in County Treasurer's Account County Funds, entry 203. Record of teachers' institute funds received by county treasurer from superintendent of schools, showing name and address of teacher, date received for registration, date of renewal, and total amount of fees paid. Arr. chron. No index. 1924-25, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1926--, typed on pr. fm. 320 p. 16 x 11½ x 2. Treas.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Probate (See also entry 136)

207. ESTATE FUND BOOK, 1879---. 1 v.

Account book of estate funds of missing heirs, held in trust by county treasurer, and received from guardians, trustees, and administrators of estates, showing names of missing heirs, estates, and guardians or trustees, amount due each heir, and total amount; also contains accounts of inheritance tax fund. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. on pr. fm. 159 p. $17\frac{1}{2}$ x $14\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Treas.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Dog License (See also entries 56, 191)

208. DOG LICENSE FUND, 1920---. 1 v. (1). 1872-1919 in County Treasurer's Account County Funds, entry 203.

Ledger of dog license fund, showing amount of dog tax received, amount paid as damage to owners of sheep killed or damaged by dogs, date and to whom paid, amount of fees, names of witnesses, and total amount. Arr. by license no. No index. Hdw. 159 p. 16 x $11\frac{1}{2}$ x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Treas.'s vlt., 1st fl.

County Orders
(See also entries 5-10)

209. REGISTER OF COUNTY ORDERS, HIGHWAY AND TUBERCULOSIS, 1869---.

14 v. (A, 1869-80; A-C, 6 not labeled, E, F, 8, 9, 1873---).

Missing: 1922-30. Title varies: Register of County Orders and Jury Certificates.

Register of county orders, including jurors' certificates, 1891-1921, showing date and number of order, to whom issued, purpose, and amount. Also contains Crow and Ground Hog Bounty, 1869-1906, 1910---, entry 210. Arr. by order no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 240 p. - 600 p. 16 x 11 x 2 - 16 x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. V. A, 6 not labeled, 1869-80, 1891-1921, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. A-C, 1873-90, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. E, F, 8, 9, 1922---, treas.'s vlt., 1st fl.

210. CROW AND GROUND HOG BOUNTY, 1907-9. 1 v. 1869-1906, 1910---

in Register of County Orders, Highway and Tuberculosis, entry 209.

Copies of warrants issued in payment for destruction of crows and ground hogs, showing warrant number, to whom paid, date of issue, and amount. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Writing faded, paper poor. Hdw. on pr. fm. 250 p. 19 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

211. COUNTY WARRANTS ENGLISH SPARROWS (Bounty), 1896-1901. 3 v.

Discontinued.

Stub records of warrants issued in payment of bounty for destruction of English sparrows, showing warrant number, date of issue, to whom issued, and amount. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 150 p. 17 x 14 x 1 . Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

212. (COUNTY TREASURER'S MISCELLANEOUS FILES), 1900---. 22 f.b.

County orders paid, treasurer's receipts from state for taxes, delinquent tax lists, collections made by county banks, annual reports of treasurer and collector, real estate and personal road tax lists, bonds and reports of county officials, statements, and miscellaneous tax receipts. Arr. chron. No index. 5 x 10 x 4 . Treas.'s off., 1st fl.



XVIII. COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The county superintendent of schools is a statutory officer, elected for a term of four years.¹ In Stephenson County, the superintendent's office serves as the central school administrative agency for the county. One or more of the several congressional townships comprise the several school districts.² Within these administrative units are elected boards of three trustees who have executive and financial responsibilities which come under the supervision of the county superintendent. These boards of trustees report annually to the county superintendent on the condition of the schools in their respective districts; and their bonds are filed with the superintendent. The boards appoint their own treasurers who also act as clerks of the township (or school district) boards.³

The superintendent makes quarterly and annual reports to the county board of supervisors and also reports to the state superintendent of public instruction, the state department of public health, the state fire marshal, and the state architect. His original duties are:

1. Selling township fund lands and issuing certificates therefor.
2. Examining the complete accounts of every township treasurer in his county and reporting irregularities of the township trustees.
3. Conducting a teachers' institute, holding quarterly examinations for teachers' certificates, and issuing same.
4. Holding examinations for normal and university scholarships.
5. Visiting the public schools in the county, observing methods of instruction, making recommendations to teachers, advising school officers; observing sanitary and safety conditions, notifying trustees and state authorities of unsatisfactory conditions; inspecting plans and specifications, and approving those meeting state regulations.⁴

1. L.1872, p. 702; L.1909, p. 342; L.1915, p. 628; L.1923, p. 596. Term formerly ran two years. R.S.1345, p. 497.
2. R.S.1845, p. 503; L.1847, p. 126; L.1929, p. 745.
3. L.1927, p. 843; L.1929, p. 745.
4. R.S.1845, p. 498; L.1347, p. 122; L.1849, p. 156; L.1853, p. 246; L.1855, p. 66,67; L.1861, p. 190,191; L.1865, p. 119,120; L.1909, p. 343-52; L.1915, p. 635.

The first county school official in Stephenson County was the county school commissioner.¹ The principal duties of this officer, an appointee of the county commissioners' court, centered around the sale of school lands. His reports of these sales were made to the county commissioners' court and recorded by their clerk in a well-bound book kept for that purpose.² The school commissioner also reported to the commissioners' court on his other transactions and on the school fund.³ In 1845 the office of county superintendent of schools was created as an ex-officio office of the county school commissioner.⁴ For his ex-officio duties as superintendent of schools the commissioner received additional compensation for the days actually engaged in the performance of these duties.⁵ Beginning with the year 1847, the school commissioner was elected by the electorate for a two-year term.⁶ In 1865 the office of county superintendent of schools was established as an independent office and had delegated to it the authority formerly vested in the county school commissioner.⁷

A noteworthy undertaking of the county superintendent of schools is the annual teachers' institute. Pioneer legislation of 1869 provided that the school directors were to allow school teachers to attend the teachers' institute in their county without the loss of time or pay.⁸ Twenty years later the county superintendent of schools was required to hold the institute annually.⁹ A fund was set up for this purpose, which fund has continued to be made up of the fees received from applicants for teachers' certificates and from teachers' registrations. Money from the fund is paid out only on the order of the superintendent to defray the expenses of the annual institute. When the fund exceeds the annual cost it may be paid out for special meetings of teachers.¹⁰

Accounts of School Funds
(See also entry 206)

213. SUPERINTENDENTS RECORD OF DISTRIBUTION FUND, 1924--. 2 v., 1 bdl. (1 v., 1924-33; 1 bdl., 1934; 1 v., 1935--). Title varies: Distribution Fund Record; Statement of School Trustees. Statements of school trustees showing township and district numbers, totals of budget accepted by county superintendent, total computed, amounts distributed by districts from motor fuel tax, amounts withheld, and total amount for township. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. V. 300 p. 8½ x 9½ x 1; bdl., 1 x 8 x 9½. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

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1. R.L.1829, p. 150,151.
 2. R.L.1829, p. 152,153; L.1849, p. 155,156,159,160; L.1851, p. 130.
 3. L.1831, p. 175.
 4. L.1845, p. 54.
 5. L.1849, p. 178; L.1867, p. 161.
 6. L.1847, p. 120; L.1849, p. 154,155.
 7. L.1865, p. 112; L.1871-72, p. 702; L.1909, p. 297; L.1889, p. 312; L.1909, p. 342.
 8. L.1869, p. 394; L.1887, p. 297; L.1889, p. 312; L.1909, p. 342.
 9. L.1889, p. 312.
 10. Ibid. 7; also L.1905, p. 386; L.1931, p. 876.

214. FORM "A" TEACHER'S PENSION RETIREMENT FUND, 1920--. 13 bdl.
Forms showing name of school, district number, date of filing, name of teacher, length of school term, total years taught, monthly and yearly salary, and amount paid to pension fund. Arr. alph. by name of teacher. No index. 9 x $3\frac{1}{2}$ x 9. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

215. SUPERINTENDENT'S TEACHERS' INSTITUTE RECORD, 1883--. 3 v.
Record of institute membership and funds, showing number, name and address of teacher, actual number of months taught, hours attendance at institute, registration fee, fees for certificates and renewals, and total receipts. Arr. by registration no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 16 x 11 x 2. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

Teachers' Records

216. TEACHERS PERMANENT RECORD, 1915--. 5 v., 6 f.b. (5 v., 1915-32; 6 f.b., 1933--).
Permanent record of teachers, showing name and address, date of birth, schools and colleges attended, degrees granted, type and date of certificate issued, record of employment, and total years taught. Arr. alph. by name of teacher. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. V. 375 p. 10 x 16 x 2; f.b. 6 x 9 x $13\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

For other teachers' service records, see entry 217.

217. RECORD OF SERVICE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF STEPHENSON COUNTY ILLINOIS, 1902--. 3 v. No prior records.
Service record showing local name and number of school, name and address of teacher, and annual record of time taught. Arr. alph. by name of teacher. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 240 p. $16\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

218. COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT'S EXAMINATION AND CERTIFICATE RECORD, 1877--. 6 v.
Record of applicants for teacher's certificate, showing number and name of applicant, age, address, date of certificate, number of years taught, kind of certificate, office of issue, and dates of registration and renewal of credits. Also contains Commissioner's Record of Examination of Teachers, 1880--, entry 219. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 16 x $10\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

219. COMMISSIONER'S RECORD OF EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS, 1861-79.
1 v. 1880-- in County Superintendent's Examination and Certificate Record, entry 218.
School commissioner's record of teacher examinations, showing name, age, and nativity of teacher, and date and grade of certificate. Arr. alph. by name of teacher. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 150 p. 14 x $8\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

220. INSTITUTIONAL CREDIT BLANK, 1914--. 19 bdl.

Title varies: Certificate of Endorsement.

Certified statements of qualifications, showing name of teacher, date and place of birth, credits, and schools received from. Arr. alph. by name of teacher. No index. 3 x 5 x 10. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

221. (TEACHERS' EXAMINATION), 1902-5. 10 v. Discontinued.

Examination questions showing subjects upon which teachers were examined before county superintendent of schools. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 200 p. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

Pupil Records

222. SUPERINTENDENTS RECORD OF DIPLOMAS GRANTED TO PUPILS OF THE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS, STEPHENSON COUNTY, 1887--. 2 v.

Record of diplomas granted, showing name, age, number and post office address of pupil, date of diploma, and name of teacher. Arr. alph. by name of pupil. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 16 x 11 x 2. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

223. SUPERINTENDENTS RECORD OF FINAL EXAMINATION, 1887--. 3 v.

Final examination record showing number of pupil, name, address, age, course of study, average grade, name, number and location of district, date of examination, and name of teacher. Arr. alph. by name of pupil. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 240 p. 16 x 11 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

224. RECORD (Examination Questions), 1903-19. 2 v. Discontinued.

Record of examination questions used in mid-term examinations for pupils from first to eighth grade, and subjects covered in these grades. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 300 p. 12 x 8 x 1. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

225. CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE FROM NON-HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS,
1929--. 1 v. No prior records.

Register of school attendance certificates, showing number of district, date of school year, months school was in session, name, address, and age of student, from what district, year of course, months attended, and amount of tuition. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 220 p. 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

226. ILLINOIS NON-HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT RECORD, 1917--. 2 v. (1, 2).

Record of non-high school districts, showing descriptions of boundaries of school districts, proceedings of board, financial accounts, name of eighth grade graduates attending high school, record of elections of board members, and record of tax levies. Arr. by no. of school district. No index. Hdw. 183 p. 12 x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

227. RECORD (Navy Examinations), 1903-10. 1 v. Discontinued.

Record of examination for admission to Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, showing date and place of examination, name of applicant, subjects upon which examined, physical qualifications, and signature of county superintendent. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 401 p. 14 x 10 x 2. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

Reports

228. ANNUAL REPORT OF COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, 1861--. 75 v. Annual reports showing location and number of schools, enrollment by number of boys and girls between ages of 6 and 21, district number, length of term, number of graduates and teachers, qualifications, salaries, and complete financial statistics. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 38 p. $15\frac{1}{2}$ x $10\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

229. VISITATION RECORD, 1909-31. 20 v. Discontinued.

Title varies: Diary.

Record of calls made by superintendent of schools in county, showing name of school visited, total valuation of taxable property in school district, amount of tax levy and rate, names of directors, date of expiration of term, enrollment of pupils, average daily attendance, total days attendance, and suggestions to teachers and directors. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 150 p. 8 x 15 x 1. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

230. TEACHERS ANNUAL REPORT, 1930--. 13 bdl. No prior records. Annual reports of teachers, showing name and number of school district, name of teacher, date of filing with county superintendent, total enrollment, length of school term, and average daily attendance. Arr. by district no. No index. $3\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 x 9. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

231. TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT, 1914--. 22 bdl.

Annual report of township trustees, showing general statistics, such as school census, enrollment, number of district, qualifications and salaries of teachers, value of school property, financial statistics, and recapitulation. Arr. chron. No index. 2 x 4 x $9\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

232. (TOWNSHIP TREASURERS' ANNUAL REPORTS), 1914--. 18 bdl.

Annual reports of township treasurers as ex-officio school treasurers, showing name of township and treasurer, number and name of school districts, statement of loans, securities, cash on hand, number and value of acreage in township, and notarial acknowledgment. Arr. chron. No index. 2 x 4 x 9. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

233. MINUTES, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, 1890-1932. 1 v.

Discontinued.

Minutes of board meetings of trustees, showing date and place of meeting, record of business transacted, record of appeals by petition upon decisions of board; also copies of letters by county superintendent of schools. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 181 p. $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

County Superintendent of Schools -
Register of School Officers;
Elections; Bonds; Maps and Plats;
Receipts and Expenditures

Register of School Officers

234. LIST OF SCHOOL OFFICERS, 1926--. 1 bdl. No prior records. List of school officers, showing names and addresses of trustees and directors, names of officers, and expiration of term. Arr. alph. by name of officer. No index. 3 x 3 x 8. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

School Elections

235. (PETITIONS FOR NOMINATING MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL BOARD), 1920-29. 9 bdl. Discontinued. Petitions showing description of boundaries of community high school district, name and number of district, date and place of election, names of candidates, signatures of voters, and affidavits to petition. Arr. chron. No index. 2 x 3 x 8. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

Bonds (See also entry 17)

236. TOWNSHIP TREASURERS' BONDS, 1916-21. 1 bdl. 1840-1915, 1922-- in (County Clerk's Miscellaneous File), entry 67. Bonds of township treasurer as ex-officio school treasurer, covering school funds, showing names of treasurer and sureties, amount and date of bond accepted by county superintendent, and date of filing. Arr. chron. No index. 3 x 4 x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

Maps and Plats

237. RECORD OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS, 1850-59. 1 v. Discontinued. Plat book showing school districts with description of school property, township, range, section, and school district numbers, and name of school. Arr. by district no. No index. Hdw. and hand-drawn. Binding and paper poor, writing faded. 131 p. 12 x 8 x 1. Common vlt., bsmt.

Receipts and Expenditures

238. RECEIPTS, 1935--. 1 bdl. Receipts given by township treasurer to county superintendent for money received from the distribution fund, showing date and amount received, and amount credited to each district with name and district number. Arr. chron. No index. $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3 x 8. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

239. OFFICE EXPENSE BOOK, 1887-1901. 1 v. Discontinued. Expense book showing date and amount of checks received from county treasurer, date and itemized account of office expenses, and total of receipts and expenditures quarterly. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 200 p. 13 x 8 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

For other records of expenditures, see entry 240.

240. CASH BOOK (of School Commissioner and Superintendent of Schools), 1843---. 2 v.

Cash book accounts of school commissioner and superintendent of schools with Stephenson County, showing money received, from whom, date, and on what account; also expenditures, to whom paid or loaned, and on what account. Arr. chron. No index. 1843-56, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1857---, hdw. 150 p. - 200 p. 12 x 8 x 1 - 9 x 14 x 2. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

XIX. COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS

Provision was first made for the county superintendent of highways in 1913 in accordance with legislation of that year.¹ The superintendent's office was opened in the following year to carry out the powers delegated to this new branch of county government. Prior to 1913 the township boards of highway commissioners performed essentially those duties since delegated to the authority of the county superintendent of highways. The township boards have continued in existence, but their powers are principally subordinated to those of the county superintendent of highways.

The superintendent is appointed by the county board of supervisors. The board submits a list of three to five candidates to the (state) department of public works and buildings. This department examines the candidates to determine the person best fitted for the office.² The successful candidate holds office for six years, is remunerated by a sum fixed by the county board, and is subject to removal by the board.

The powers and duties of the county superintendent of highways come under the rules and regulations of the department of public works and buildings, and he is required to perform such duties as may be prescribed under the direction

1. L.1913, p. 524.

2. Between the years 1913 and 1921 the list of prospective candidates was required to be submitted to the state highway commission. L.1913, p. 524; L.1921, p. 781; L.1933, p. 960.

of the (state) chief highway engineer.¹ The said superintendent exercises supervision over township, county and state-aid roads, bridges, and culverts in his county.

His principal duties are:

1. Preparing plans, specifications, and estimates for all bridges to be built by the county.
2. Supervising the construction and maintenance of county roads and bridges, and state-aid roads.
3. Inspecting the highways and bridges in each town or district of his county at least once a year.
4. Advising and directing the highway commissioners in each town or district as to the best methods of repair, maintenance, and improvement of highways and bridges.
5. Approving any purchase in excess of \$200 for materials, machinery, or apparatus to be used in road construction in any town or district.²

He is required to keep the following records:

1. Records of contracts, purchases, and expenditures authorized by himself, the county board, or township commissions.
2. Maps, plats, blueprints, specifications, etc., arising in his supervision of roads and bridges, or the planning of new construction.
3. Accounts of the funds handled by his office.
4. Reports from other officers or bodies touching upon the affairs of his office; copies of his own reports on the administration of his office; related papers.³

Construction and Maintenance Records
(See also entry 16)

241. (MISCELLANEOUS HIGHWAY PAPERS), 1914--. 25 f.b.
Highway department papers including road, bridge, and culvert contracts, petitions for roads, state notices, highway commissioners' monthly reports, accident reports, labor reports, certificates of publication, and cards showing location of bridges and culverts with date built, cost, and key to blueprint. Also contains Crusher Records, 1935--, entry 242, and Record of Equipment Rental Services, 1914-34, entry 243. Arr. chron. No index.
11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 23 - 2 x 15 x 12 - 6 x 9 x 15. Off. of supt. of hwys., 2nd fl.

1. L.1921, p. 781; L.1933, p. 960.
2. L.1913, p. 523-26.
3. L.1913, p. 525, 526.

242. CRUSHER RECORDS, 1933-34. 1 f.b. 1935-- in (Miscellaneous Highway Papers), entry 241.

Statements of amounts of stone reduced by crushers, with number of loads of gravel used on highways, showing location of roads by townships, district, and route number, date received, and total loads and cubic yards used. Arr. chron. No index. $2\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of hwy., 2nd fl.

243. RECORD OF EQUIPMENT RENTAL SERVICES, 1935--. 1 f.b. 1914-34 in (Miscellaneous Highway Papers), entry 241.

Reports of rental equipment used in the construction of county roads, showing order number, name of owner of equipment, description of equipment, including license number on trucks, number of days or hours service, rental rate, and date and total amount paid. Arr. alph. by name of party owning equipment. No index. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 15 \times 23$. Off. of supt. of hwy., 2nd fl.

244. (MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL RIGHT OF WAY COMMITTEE), 1850--. 13 v. Minutes of special right of way committee of county board of supervisors, showing record of bids submitted for contracts pertaining to highway construction, of bids for moving buildings and fences on new right of way, and widening old rights of way; also showing copy of signed dedications to right of way, and amount to be paid grantor pursuant to advice of state's attorney. Arr. chron. No index. Typed. 200 p. - 356 p. $10 \times 7\frac{1}{2} \times 1 - 14 \times 8 \times 2$. Off. of supt. of hwy., 2nd fl.

245. RECORD BOOK, 1914--. 1 v.

Account book showing amounts for roads, bridges, and culverts by townships, including receipts, date, amount, and source of taxation; also showing items of expenditures on construction, repairing, grading roads, and purchase of machinery and supplies. Also contains Accounts Receivable - Invoice Register, 1914-31, entry 248; Claim Register, 1914-31, entry 252; and Monthly Report on Condition of Highway Funds, 1914-31, entry 254. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 125 p. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 9 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of hwy., 2nd fl.

246. MISCELLANEOUS RECORD, 1933--. 1 v.

Cost accounts of roads and bridges, showing name and address of contractor, name of bonding company, amount and date of bond, date and amount of appropriation, date contract awarded and completed, route number, and location, class of work, total mileage, date, number, and total amount of claim, and number and kind of bridges. Also contains Road and Bridge Accounts, 1935--, entry 249. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 500 p. $17\frac{1}{2} \times 12 \times 3$. Off. of supt. of hwy., 2nd fl.

247. COUNTY MOTOR FUEL TAX ALLOTMENT RECORD, 1931--. 1 v.

Accounts of county motor fuel tax allotments, showing date and amount of funds received from motor fuel tax, amounts distributed for road purposes to each township and district, total amount distributed, and total balance available. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 150 p. $12 \times 10 \times 1$. Off. of supt. of hwy., 2nd fl.

248. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE - INVOICE REGISTER, 1932—. 1 v. 1914-31 in Record Book, entry 245.

Statement of accounts receivable for deposit in road and bridge, and county highway funds, showing date, number and amount of invoice, to whom issued, for what purpose, and dates collected and deposited. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 p. 11 x 15 x 1. Off. of supt. of hwys., 2nd fl.

249. ROAD AND BRIDGE ACCOUNTS, 1932-34. 2 v. 1935— in Miscellaneous Record, entry 246.

Statement of accounts for roads and bridges, showing number of account, name and address of contractor, credit rating and limit, amount of funds available, items of expenditures on contracts, and balance of funds available. Arr. alph. by name of contractor. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 400 p. 11½ x 10 x 2. Off. of supt. of hwys., 2nd fl.

250. (MISCELLANEOUS W.P.A. PAPERS), 1933—. 10 f.b.

Works Progress Administration papers including reclassification slips, lists of types of projects with names of project sponsors, project proposals, construction memoranda, requisitions for workers and purchase of trucks, inspection reports, and notices of changes in work status. Arr. by project no. No index. 3 x 11½ x 12. Off. of supt. of hwys., 2nd fl.

251. TIME REPORTS W. P. A. PROJECTS, 1935—. 1 f.b.

Copies of time reports for Works Progress Administration projects, showing number and nature of project, name, age, sex, identification number, and class of worker, hours assigned payroll period, total hours worked, amount and date of checks for each worker, and total payroll. Arr. by identification no. No index. 11½ x 15 x 23. Off. of supt. of hwys., 2nd fl.

Claims

252. CLAIM REGISTER, 1932—. 1 v. 1914-31 in Record Book, entry 245. Register of highway claims, showing date and number of claim, purchase and requisition numbers, date, amount, and purpose for which requisition issued and against what fund drawn, amount and number of claims charged each township and school district, and total amount of claims. Arr. alph. by name of claimant. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 650 p. 12 x 17½ x 3. Off. of supt. of hwys., 2nd fl.

Warrants

(See also entries 7, 209)

253. COUNTY HIGHWAY WARRANTS CANCELLED, 1932—. 1 v.

Register of cancelled county highway warrants, showing dates, numbers, and amounts of cancelled warrants issued against motor fuel tax, and road and bridge funds, amounts distributed to each township and district, and date of cancellation by bank. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 250 p. 12 x 12 x 1½. Off. of supt. of hwys., 2nd fl.

Reports

254. MONTHLY REPORT ON CONDITION OF HIGHWAY FUNDS, 1932--. 1 v.
1914-31 in Record Book, entry 245.

Report of county treasurer on condition of highway funds to county board and county superintendent of highways, showing amount of fund, deposits for month, balance in fund less claims in transit, and less commitments and unpaid obligations, and fund surplus or deficit. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 350 p. 12 x 9 x 1. Off. of supt. of hwys., 2nd fl.

Surveys, Maps and Plats

255. ENGINEER'S FIELD BOOKS, 1931--. 22 v.

Engineers' field books showing surveys of proposed roads, location by township and district, and complete specifications used in estimated costs of final construction. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. 100 p. 7 x 5 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of hwys., 2nd fl.

256. ROAD PLATS, 1884--. 1 v. Last correction 1913.

Copies of township maps, showing plats of roads with names of township and town clerk, sections, school districts, road districts, date of plat, and date of filing for recordation. Hand-drawn and hdw. on pr. fm. by county surveyor. Published in Freeport, Illinois. Arr. by twp. and range. Indexed alph. by name of twp. 290 p. 18 x 12 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

257. MAP OF STEPHENSON COUNTY, 1923. 1 map.

Communications and political map showing roads, railroads, school districts, towns and villages, townships, and congressional districts. Publisher, Ford, Hardacre Map Co., Indianapolis, Indiana. Printed and colored. Writing and paper poor. $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. to 1 mi. 32 x 40. Co. clk.'s main off., 1st fl.

258. (MAPS OF HIGHWAYS), 1914--. 6 f.d. (3000 maps).

Communication maps showing location and specifications of highways, bridges, and culverts in county and townships, with sections, and road cross sections. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Author, Oscar G. Hixley, county surveyor. Published in Freeport, Illinois. Blueprint. 36 x 20. F.d. $2\frac{1}{2}$ x 40 x 22. Off. of supt. of hwys., 2nd fl.

259. W.P.A. PROJECTS STEPHENSON COUNTY, 1933-34. 1 chart.

Communication chart showing nine Works Progress Administration highway projects with amount appropriated for each and percentage of completion. Artist, William Tracy, Freeport, Illinois. Paper soiled. $22\frac{1}{2}$ x 28. Off. of supt. of hwys., 2nd fl.

XX. SURVEYOR

The county surveyor was elected by the electorate in Stephenson County from its organization in 1837 until 1936.¹ Since September of the latter date, the surveyor has been an appointee of the county board of supervisors. Before entering upon the duties of his office, he takes and subscribes to an oath which is filed in the county clerk's office.

This official is required by law to make all surveys within the bounds of his county that he may be called upon to make by the county board or interested persons. Such surveys include surveys of lands of persons requesting the same, of additions or subdivisions, and marking of county lines. Few changes have been made in the original statutory requirements for the duties of this office. The surveyor may appoint one or more deputies. Chairmen approved by the surveyor are employed by persons requesting a survey.

The county surveyor is required by law to keep a well-bound book in which he records all surveys made by him, giving such information as the name of the person whose land is surveyed and descriptive data of the survey. This record is required to be kept by the surveyor in the recorder's office. The surveyor also preserves his field notes and retains copies of plats.²

260. SURVEYOR'S RECORD, 1840--. 6 v. (1-3, A, I, 1 not labeled). Record of certified surveys, made at request of land owners, showing name and address of land owner, legal description of land, date, and affidavit of surveyor. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of land owner. Hdw. 144 p. - 600 p. - 139 p. $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 x 1 - 18 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 3 - $21\frac{1}{2}$ x $18\frac{1}{2}$ x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

261. MEMORANDUM OF SURVEYOR'S REPORTS, 1853-84. 16 v. Discontinued. Reports of surveyors, showing names of property owner and surveyor, date and diagram of survey, location and legal description of property. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. Writing faded, paper poor. 100 p. 5 x 4 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

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1. L.1835, p. 166; L.1837, p. 558; R.S.1845, p. 524; R.S.1874, p. 456, 1050; L.1903, p. 349; L.1933, p. 1104.
 2. L.1821, p. 634; R.L.1829, p. 173; R.L.1833, p. 582, 599, 600; L.1845, p. 201; R.S.1845, p. 524; R.S.1874, p. 1050; L.1885, p. 248; L.1916, p. 575; L.1933, p. 1104; L.1935, p. 2416.

262. PUBLIC SURVEYS OF STEPHENSON COUNTY, 1849. 1 v. Obsolete. Field notes of survey of public lands, by townships, as certified by Surveyor General of the United States to Surveyor General Lewis Clark; also includes survey of the southern boundary of the State of Wisconsin. Arr. by twp. no. No index. Hdw. Writing faded, paper very poor. 592 p. 8 x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

XXI. COUNTY HOME

One phase of public assistance in Stephenson County is administered by the county home. All county poor houses, poor farms and institutions for the support and care of indigents in Illinois are known as county homes. County poor houses and farms have existed in this state under statutory provisions for nearly a century. The legislation creating these county establishments for the indigent has changed little since the original enactments. The county boards of the various counties may establish a county home and are granted the following powers:

1. To acquire by purchase, grant, gift or devise, a suitable tract or tracts upon which to erect and maintain a county poor house and other necessary buildings, and for the establishment and maintenance of a farm for the employment of the poor.
2. To receive gifts and bequests to aid in the erection and maintenance of the poor house, or in the care of the indigents.
3. To make rules or regulations for same.
4. To appoint a keeper of the poor house and all necessary agents and servants for the management and control of the poor house and farm and prescribe their compensation and duties.
5. To appoint a county physician and prescribe his compensation and duties.
6. To appoint an agent to have the general supervision and charge of all matters in relation to the care and support of the poor and prescribe his compensation and duties.
7. To make the necessary appropriations for the erection and maintenance of the county home.²

Records of the county home are prepared and kept by the keeper (superintendent) of the said home. He is required to keep an account, showing the name of each person admitted to the county poor house; the time of his admission.

1. L.1919, p. 699; L.1935, p. 1058.
 2. L.1839, p. 139; R.S.1845, p. 404; L.1861, p. 180; R.S.1874, p. 757; L.1917, p. 638; L.1919, p. 698; L.1935, p. 1057, 1058.



and discharge; the place of his birth; whether his dependence resulted from idiocy, lunacy, intemperance, or other causes, stating the cause; and is required, at the same time each year, to file with the county clerk of his county a copy of the same, together with a statement showing the average number of persons kept in the poorhouse each month during the year.¹

263. ALMSHOUSE REGISTER, 1856--. 1 v.

Register of inmates, showing name, sex, age, color, occupation, civil conditions, birthplace, education, health, residence and habits of inmate, date of admission, supposed cause of pauperism, and order for admission. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 175 p. 18 x 10 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. home off. safe, 1st fl.

264. LEDGER, 1914--. 2 v. No prior records.

Account ledger of receipts and expenditures, showing date, nature and amount of transaction, source from which received, and to whom paid. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 300 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Co. home off., 1st fl.

For county board record of inmate charges to each township, see entry 8.

XXII. COUNTY NURSE

A public health nurse assists the county board of supervisors in the promotion of health activities and welfare in Stephenson County. The county nurse is certified by the state department of registration and education as a person qualified by registration and examination to perform the duties of a public health nurse, and is appointed by the county board of supervisors.² Annually, the county nurse is required to renew his or her certificate upon payment of a fee to the state department of registration and education.³ After the issuance of the certificate to practice, the department may suspend or revoke such certificate for any of the causes established by law.⁴ Any order for revocation or suspension may be reviewed by the circuit court of Stephenson County.⁵

The duties performed by the county nurse are those considered necessary for the public welfare by the county board. The nurse makes written

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1. R.S.1874, p. 758.
 2. L.1931, p. 732,735; L.1937, p. 998.
 3. L.1937, p. 1000.
 4. Ibid 2.
 5. L.1937, p. 1002.



reports to the state department of public health, in the form and at times prescribed by the department, and with the consent of the county board of supervisors.¹

265. (PUPILS HEALTH REPORTS), 1931--. 6 f.b.

Health reports of pupils, with name of pupil, date of health inspection, grade, age, height, weight, complete health record, condition of home, names and address of parents, occupation of father, and number of school district. Arr. alph. by name of pupil. No index. 20 x 16 x 20. Off. of co. nurse, 3rd fl.

1. L.1931, p. 733; L.1937, p. 998.



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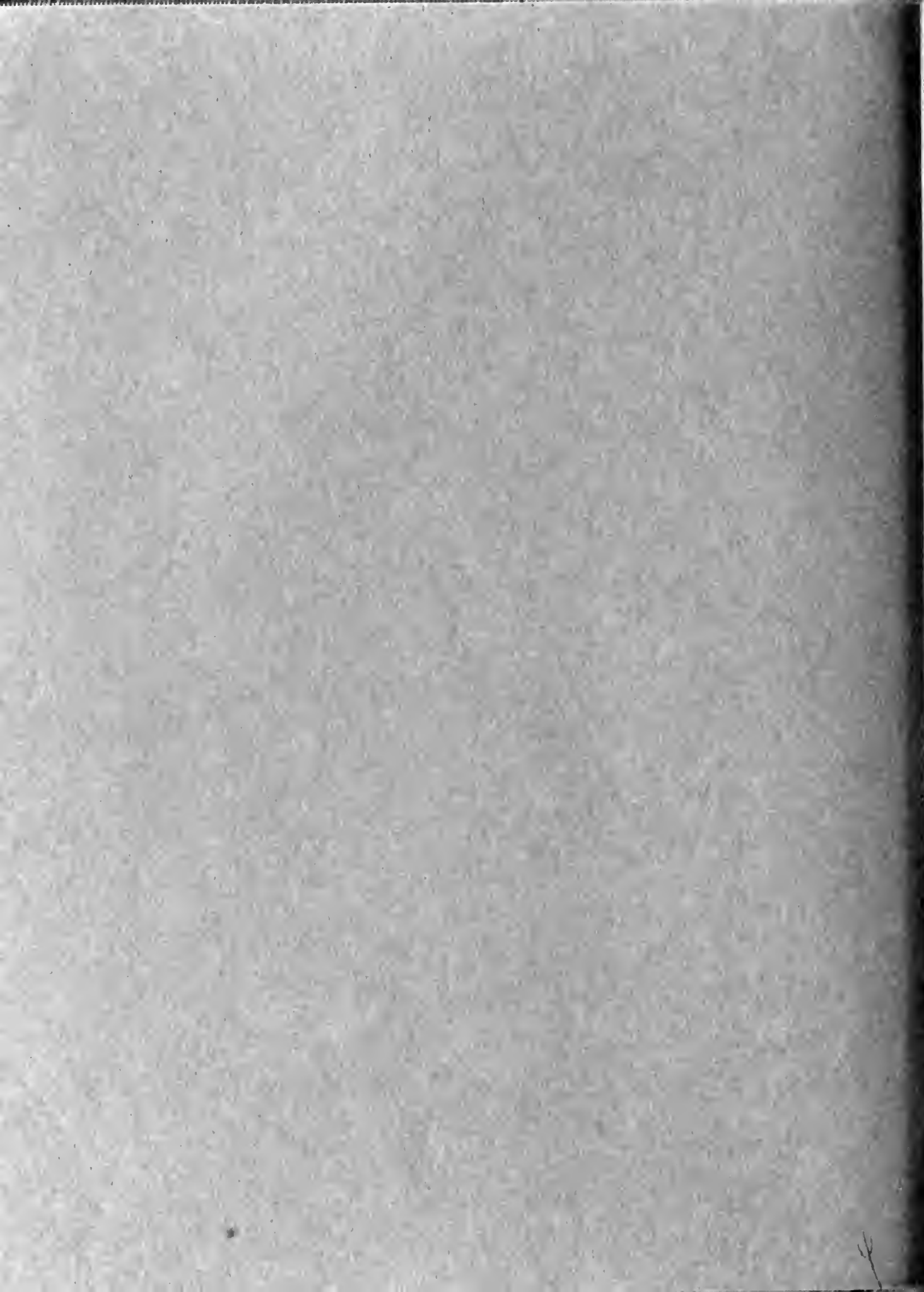
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